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HISTORICAL MEMORANDA

OF

BRECONSHIRE.

A COLLECTION OF

PAPERS

FROM VARIOUS SOURCES

RELATING TO THE

HISTORY OF THE COUNTY.

VOLUME I.

BY JOHN LLOYD.

BRECON :

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1903.

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PREFACE.

These Memoranda have now extended to a couple of hundred pages, and I have resolved to collect the four Parts in which they have appeared into one Volume.

The material at hand of a similar character is abundant, and in the hope of being able to add other Parts, so as to form a second Volume, I have ventured to give this the title of Volume I.

During the last few years, some very important questions connected with our County have had my attention, such as the Right of Common in the Penkelly Manors, the Great Forest Inclosure, and the Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal, and it became necessary to search all available records, including our County Histories, for information.

In dealing with such in Courts of Law, the most accurate and full information is required, and not extracts but the documents themselves have to pass through the hands of the inquirer.

For these purposes the pages of our County Historian, or of historians generally, are of little use. Not only in our case have 100 years passed since our able historian, Theophilus Jones, compiled his history, in which period events of great county importance have occurred, but even in his time the field of history to explore and describe was so wide that the historian was quite unable fully to deal with it. Where we now wish he had paused, and given full particulars of some subject now again of present interest, we find he had time and space only to give it a passing comment or reference. His help seems to fail us at the very time it is needed.

In such respects my object has been to supplement the work of our County Historian, and by printing copies of original documents in extenso, to add to the value and practical utility of his great work.

For instance, the chief documents used in the Penkelly Manor trials have been twice searched for and copied at great expense, since Theophilus Jones wrote, in 1817 and again in 1898, and by printing these documents now in full, the litigants, if any further trial takes place regarding these Manors and Common rights, will be able to read the papers for themselves in their own arm chair, without any expense, and possibly they may think twice in consequence before they commence a lawsuit.

The Great Forest Case, and that of the Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal, are also those where the fullest documentary evidence should be accessible to the public,

and the rights of all parties fully stated. There should be no mystery as to what the documents of title are, and if any dispute arises, it then becomes at once narrowed down to the legal interpretation of the language of the document, the document being public property and known to all interested.

And it may be said that in the interest of the least powerful and the weak, this ready available knowledge is of the chiefest value, placing them on an equality with the powerful and rich, who can afford to make costly searches of their own whenever needed. The Lord of a Manor knows his title, but what does a Commoner know of his ! What title deeds or documents has he, though his title is the same as that of the Lord to his common land !

Whenever copies of old documents are given in this volume, every pains have been taken to secure perfect accuracy, and the services of one of the most competent copyists who attend the Record Office has been secured. The experience of a recent trial has given proof that in that instance at least the copies were thoroughly trustworthy and to be depended upon. This character for accuracy is the best reward that a collector of papers like these can wish for.

Some lighter pieces are here and there interspersed, possessing an antiquarian interest, or illustrating the life and times of our Breconshire forefathers.

15, Chepstow Place, London, W.,

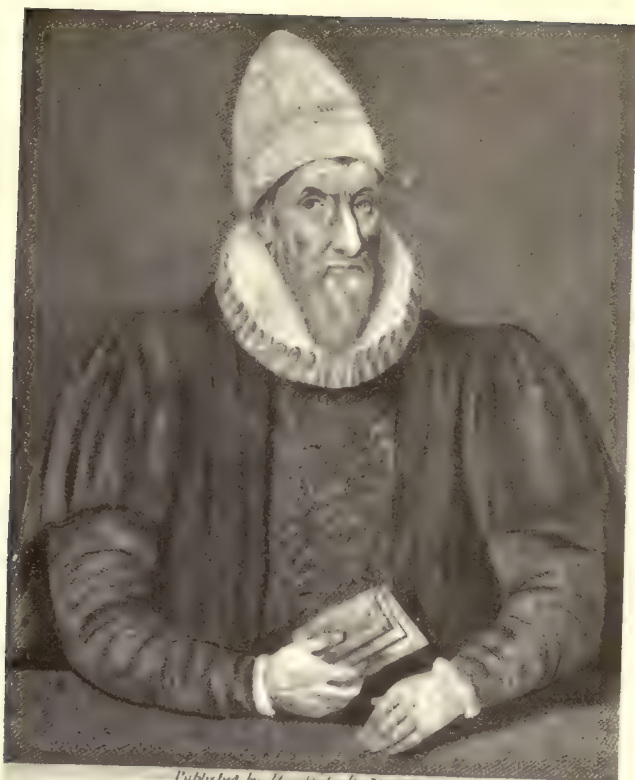
Oct. 1, 1903.

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ERRATUM.—Page 93, line 18—For “forgotten,” read “fotten.” It is a north-country term for where a battle was fought.



Published by J. Smith, Printer, Dec. 14, 1787.

William
DOCTOR



Aubrey
of Laws

Augmentation Office, Parliamentary Survey, Brecon, No. 1.

MANOR OF BUILT.

BRECON MANERIUM DE BUILT OUM JURIBUS MEMBRIS ET APPURTENANT.

A Survey of Certaine Parcelles of Land lying within the Mannor of Built presented to vs to bee Crowne Land and concealed though the Mannor bee granted to ffee ffarme made and taken by vs whose Names are herevnto Subscribed in the Moneth of Januarii by vertue of a Comission grounded vpon an Act of the Comons in Parliament assembled for the Sale of the Honnors Mannors and Land heretofore belonginge to the Late Kinge Queene and Prince vnder the Hande and Seales of ffive or more of the Trustees in the said Act named and appoynted

THOMAS LEWIS VNDER TENNANT

All that one parcell of Mountaine Lande lyinge and beeing within the Parish of Mashmannys and Mannor of Built in the posesseon of Thomas Lewis abbuttinge North vpon the Mountaines and bounded West with the freehold lande of the said Thomas Lewis the pathway deviding it containe by estimacon—20 Acres

Worth p Acre	1s
In toto p. Ann	xx s (20s)

HOWEL LEWIS UNDER TENNANT

All that Parcell of Moreish ground lyinge and beeing within the said Pish (parish) of Mashmannes and Mannor of Brecon aforesaid and in the possession of Howell Lewis abutting West vpon the Mountaines and bounded North with the free Hould lande of the said Howell Lewis a certaine path way devidinge it conteneinge by estimacon—x Acres

Worth p Acre	1s
In toto p Ann	x s

ROGER PROSSER UNDER TENNANT

All that Water Corne Grist Mill lyinge and beeing within the Pish (parish) of Llandewy-com and Mannor of Built comonly knowne by the name of the Ould Mill in the occupation of Roger Prosser

The said Prosser payes to the Auditor yeerly—vi s viii d but is worth vpon improvement over and above the said Rent p ann vi (£5)

There is no Lease to be pduced (produced)

SR. EDMONDE TITLE

All that the Custome called a Comortha of twenty pounce payable every second yeere within the Mannor of Built aforesaid which said some of twenty pounce Sir Edmond Sawyer who hath the ffee ffarme of the said Mannor or his Steward or Bayliffe for the tyme beeing hath allwayes beene accustomed to Collect and Pay vnto the Receiver of the late Kinge.

Exr p Will Webb Supvis Genrll (Supervisor Generall) 1650

HEN MAKEPEACE 1650
PETER PRICE
JOHN MARRYOTT
JOHN LLOYD

[Endorsed] Built Mannour Concealments Brecknock

Received this 27th of Aprill 1650

Transmitted to the Srveyor Grall (Surveyor General) the same day

Returned the 29th of Aprill

MAKEPEACE.

Augmentation Office, Parliamentary Survey, Brecon. No. 2.

MANOR OF BRECON.

BRECON MANERIUM DE BRECON CUM JURIBUS MEMBRIS ET APPURTENANT.

A Survey of Certain Particular Peells (Particular Parcels) of Land lying and being within the Mannor of Brecknock and County of Brecon presented to vs to bee Crowne Land and Concealed though the Mannor bee granted in fee farme, made and taken by us whose names are hereunto subscribed in the Month of January by vertue of a Comission grounded vpon an Act of the Comons in Parliamt Assembled for the Sale of the Honnors Mannors and Land heretofore belonging to the late Kinge Queene and Prince under the hands and seales of fife or more of the Trustees in the said Act Named and appointed.

All that peice or peell (parcell) of grounde lyinge and beinge neere the Towne of Brecon and within the County of Brecon comonly called and knowne by the name of the great fforrest consistinge of a large Comon or Pasture by estimacon Seaven Miles in length or there abouts

Memorand that the Inhabitants of the severall Parishes of Devennocke Llewellyntuog Strodwelty Pedoryn Cantrefre Llanvygon and Llandvettee and there pdecessors have tim out of minde had the benefitt of the Hearbage there for all Beast Sheepe and Horse sanse number for which there is yearly paid by the severall inhabitants of the aforesaid Parrishes the some of twenty pounds six shillings eight pence to be collected (in modo sequent) (vizt) for every cowe a penny for every horse 1d A and for every score of sheep fowre pence

Redditus (Rent) xxl vi s viii d (£20 6s 8d)

All that the Custom called a Comortha of fifty six pounds sixteene shillings payable every second yeere within the Mannor of Brecon and Courty of Brecon aforesaid which said somme of fifty six pounds sixteen shillings William Morgan Esq who hath the fee farme of the said Mannor or his Steward or Bayliffe for the time beinge hath all ways bene accustomed to Collect and Pay vnto the Receiver of the late Kinge

Exr p Will. Webb Supvis Genrll 1650

HEN. MAKEPEACE 1650

PETER PRICE
JOHN MARRYOTT
JOHN LLOYD

[Enclosed] Brecknock Concealments Nup Car Regis
Brecknock

Received this vith day of Aprill

Transmitted to the Srveyor (Surveyor) the same day

Returned the 29th of Aprill

MAKEPEACE.

NOTE ON PARLIAMENTARY SURVEY.—No. 2.

MANOR OF BRECON.

We find the following in Report ii, Page 27, of the Commissioners of Woods and Forests for 1816 :—

“ According to the intention mentioned in our first report, we were about to proceed under the authority of the Act of the 48th of the King, Capt. 78, to take measures for

selling by Auction the entire interest of the Crown over the Great Forest of Brecknock, and with that view we have caused the same to be divided into seven Lots which were set out and measured by Mr. Hassell, an eminent Land Surveyor in that part of the country. But finding that a great impediment to the sale would arise in consequence of a claim set up by the Homagers to depasture an unlimited number of cattle on the Forest, we thought it expedient to suspend our proceedings, until the question involved in that claim could be determined by an issue at Law. An information in the Court of Exchequer was accordingly filed, upon which the parties soon relinquished their claim to the extent above-mentioned, and agreed to confine it to the right to depasture as many cattle as they could maintain in winter in their respective occupations."

On the other hand it is clearly stated in the Parliamentary Survey of 1650 that the commoners were not limited as to their stock, but could *turn out beast, sheep, and horse sans (without) number*. When the Crown brought the Homagers into the Court of Exchequer in 1816 to test the question, I wonder if this old survey was referred to, and used by the Homagers! It would have been useful to them.—J.L.L.

Augmentation Office, Parliamentary Surveys, Brecon. No. 3.

THE SEVEN FOREST MILLS.

BRECON : SS : THE 7 MILLS CALLED THE FFORREST MILLS.—A Survey of the seaven Mills comonly called the fforest Mills als the Custome Mills scituate and being within the Honnor of Brecknocke and within the several pishes of Divynocke Llewellyn Istradvelltye Istradgynles and Penderrine in the Countee of Brecon within the Dominion of Wales, called or knowne by the names of Divynocke Mill Istrodvelltye Glintaway Mill Craye Mill Pwllcoch Mill Llewellyn Mill and Sennye Mill with the Rights members and appurtenances there of late pcell (parcel) of the possessions of Charles Stuart late King of England, made and taken by vs whose names are hereonto subscribed, By virtue of a commission granted to vs by the Honoble the Trustees appointed by Act of the Comons assembled in Parliament for Sale of the Honnors Mannors and lands heretofor belonging to the late King Queene and Prince vnder there hand and seales.

DYVYNOK MILL.—All that water grist Mill with the appurtenances comonly called Divynocke Mill als the Mother Mill scituate standing and being within the Parish of Divynock and neere vnto the Parish Church of Divynocke with all Tolls Multures Suits Services and Customs therevnto belonging nowe in the Tenure and occupacon of Wm. Morgan Esqr. or his assignes wch we estimate to be worth p ann 1l (£50.)

LLEWELLYN MILL.—All that water grist Mill with the appurtenances comonly called Llewellyn Mill scituate standing and being neere vnto Trea Castle in the Parish of Llewellyn afforesaid with all Tolls Multures Suits Services and Customes therevnto belonging nowe in the tenure and occupacon of one David Gualter which we estimate to be worth p ann xiiil vis viiid (£13 6s. 8d.)

SENNY MILL.—All that water grist Mill with the appurtenances comonly called Sennye Mill scituate standing and being within ye vally of Sennye and within the Parish of Divynocke afforesaid with all Tolls Mulktures Suits Services and Customs therevnto belonging nowe in the tenure and occupacion of Lewis Powell Haverd which wee estimate to be worth p ann xxiil (£28).

CRAY MILL.—All that water grist Mill with the appurtenances comonly called Cray Mill scituate standing and being in the valley of Glancraye and within the Parish of Divynocke aforesaid with all Tolls Mulktures Suits Services and Customes therevnto belonging now in the tenure and occupacion of one Mrs. Williams wch we value to be worth p ann xii (£12).

GLINTAWAY MILL.—All that water grist Mill with the appurtenances comonly called Glintaway Mill scituate standing and being in the Parish of Istradgunles aforesaid with all Tolls, Mulktures Suits Services and Customes therevnto belonging nowe in the tenure and occupacion of Walter Thomas of Swansey Esq. which we value to be worth p ann xl (£10).

ISTRODVELTY MILL.—All that water grist Mill with the appurtenances comonly called Istrodvelty afforesaid with all Tolls Mulktures Suits Services and Customes therevnto belonging nowe in the tenure and occupacion of one John Williams and others which we estimate to be worth p ann xl (£40).

PWLLCOCK MILL.—All that water grist Mill with the appurtenances comonly called Pwllcock Mill scituate standing and being in the Parish of Pennyderrin afforesaid with all Tolls Mulktures Suits Services and Customs thereunto belonging nowe in the tenure and occupacion of Mrs. Games which we estimate to be worth p ann xl (£10).

And all wayes passages Liberties priviledges Jurisdiccons Immunityes Suits Services Mulks Mulktures tolls pounds weares Mill pounds Mill dams watercourses floodgates sluices together with the ffishing in the Rivers of Neath and Tawaye and elsewhere with all other profits Comodities advantages and appurtenances whatsoever to the said Mills or to any of them belonging or in anywise appurteyneing or which have been heretofore vsed occupied or enjoyed as pt pcell (part parcell) and Member of them or any of them.

There are divers ffreeholders and tenants within the several pishes (parishes) o Divynocke Llewelly Istrodvelty Istrodgunles and Penniderrin afforeaid whoe doe owe divers suits services and Customs to the said mills within their severall precincts and are lyable to sevrall Mulks ffines and amerciaments ffior and in default thereof. The names of such Suiters and of there severall Customs belonging to the said Mills we received partly by the Informacion of divers psons (persons) that owe the said Suits and services, and also from others, And more pticularly and ffully by prsentment exemplified before the Barrons of the Exchequer and made letters Pattents wch Presentment was taken at Brecon [sic] the xth day of April 1651 last past by divers Commissioners Authorised and required thereunto by Commission from the said Barrons of the Exchequer dated the 12th of Ffebruary 1650 upon the prsentment of a Jurye of Considerable persons within the said Honnor of Brecknock [sic] And duced (produced) to vs by one Thoms (Thomas) Awbery Esq. in whose Right the severall psons before named doe posses the said Mills. All which said psons (persons) bound to the suits and services and Customes to ye said Mills and alsoe ye Services and Customs which they owe to the said Mills And the ffynes and Penalties they are Lyable vnto in default there of here after ffolloweth (vizt).

The names of those that owe Suite &c. to Divynocke Mill :—Cisley Morgan, John Morgan, Margrett vxr Thomas, Thomas Powell Thomas Richard Griffith, Watkin David Griffith, Thomas David Thomas, Walter Watkin Cle, the Relct of Morgan Thomas Watkin, Howell Thomas, Howell David, John Lewis, Haverd Gualter, David idem and Thomas Morgan temtes, David Willm David William, Thomas Williams, gent, Rosser David, Phillip William, Gwenlian Lewes, Widd, Lucy Powell, Phee Williams Evan Prosser, Gladish Watkin, David Howell, David Howell Prees William Howell, William Gwinlian Lewis Gyles, Evans Howell Gyles Evans, Gyles Dawid Llewellyn Thomas Jenkin John William, Howell Prees, Mauld vxr Thomas Gwenlion vxr Watkin Jevan Prees Powell

David Thomas John Morgan Watkin Thomas Thomas Meredith Morgan, Watkin Richard Thomas Awbery William Jenkin Andrew Jenkin Ellinor vx : Thomas Meredith Andrew Howell Meredith Howell, William, William Howell Thomas Lewes, Phee Morgan, Howell William Phee, Thomas Morgan et mater, Morgan William Bowen, Owen William Bowen, Lewis Phee, Thomas Willm, David Llewellyn, Thomas Richard Thomas Awberey Alice vxor Jenkin, Richard Thomas Awberey Howell Watkin Agnest vxor Watkin.

These tennts owe Suit to Senny Mill :—Griffith Llewellyn, David Rees ap John, William Bowen John Howell David Howell, Lewis Powell, Haverd Howell, Haverd Howell [sic], John William, William David Lewis, William Phee Griffith Llewellyn David Idem Lewis William, William Phee, David Howell Lewis Willinm Lewis idem, idem William John, William Howell, John Thomas Inhabitans as tenntes to Mrs. Edward Games, Gwenlian vxor Morgan as tennts to Mrs. Jones of Cungoodye, Howell John Howell, William Walter as tennts to Mrs. Jones of Cungoody Thomas Morgan Howell as tennt to Rees Thomas David Llewellyn Rees ap Rees as tennt to ye sd Rees Thomas Lewis William, Phee Howell, Morgan Howell Lewis Thomas John, John David John David William John David Jevan Prees Powell David, Llewellyn Thomas William Llewellyn, William William David William.

The names of those that owe Suit &c. to Llywell Mill :—John David, Peeter Powell, Watkin John Beavan Llewellyn Prees, Howell David, David Rees, David Prees Harrye Rees, Thomas Rees David John David Morgan David Rees David Prees Nicholas Morgan idem David Walter Jenkin Bowen, Watkin William, Jenkin Beavan David Prichard Richard Powell, Thomas Bevan Watkin Edward John William David Jenkin Thomas William Prosser, Jenkin Llewellyn, John Llewellyn, Thomas Morgan Prees, idem Howell David, Jeram Watkin, William Lloyd, Lewis John John William Prees, Edward Williams idem Margaret vxr Thomas Nicholas Morgan, Thomas William Morgan.

The names of those that owe Suite &c. to Cray Mill :—Howell Griffith, William Llewellyn John Watkin, Llewellyn Wm as tennts to John Prees David John of Camleis Howell Thomas and Lluky William as tennts to the same man, Evan Powell David John Morgan, Howell Morgan as tennts to David William David Wm of Maescar, John William Llewellyn as tennts to the said Watkin David as tenants to Jevan Prees David Morgan Prees Richard William Smith as tennts to Gwalter David Lewis Thomas idem as tennts to Walter Watkins Clerk, David Thomas and his tennts Rees Griffith Joha as tenants to David Gwalter David David, Thos ap David as tennts to the same Morgan, Rytherth, John, William Bowen Llewellyn, Morgan John, and David William Llewellyn as tentes to Mrs. Williams of Blaencray and her tennant Llewellyn Morgan Mrs. Williams of Blaencray Thomas John Thomas Lewis John ap Owen Thomas ap Jevan Jevan John Watkin Jenken Price Lewis Phee William Howell Morgan Lands Watkin John and John David John Llewellyn the Relict of Lewis Morgan, and Wm Howell William Gradish vxr Richard Morgan Howell Thomas David Relict Llewellyn John Thomas ap John Wm. Howell Thomas, Thomas Lewis John Morgan Griffith Llewellyn William Powell William Jones Griffith ap Griffith Lewis Lewis Powell Hugh Powell David Lewis.

The tennts names that owe Suite &c. to Glyntaway Mill :—Edward Gwin Esq. Howell Thomas William Beavan John Griffith Griffith John Howell Thomas William Beavan Rees Wm Hopkin Evan Bowen William Hopkin Rees William Hopkin John Morgan Richard Rees Parrye, David Harrye William Thomas Jenkin Margaret David Thomas Prees William Prees Rees Pennry Rees John Price William Howell Jones John William Bowen. John Thomas Howell Edward Lewis Lewis Bowen John Thomas Phee Howell, Thomas Ffee, Mauld Howell Howell Thomas Alice Jenkins Margrett Thomas John Prees David Morgan William John ap John William John Prees William Bowen Jenkin John Rees David, Meredith William Howell John Howell Thomas William, Margaret John Lewis Watkins Llewellyn Jones William Thomas William.

The names of those that owe suite &c. to Ystrodvelltye Mill :—Llewellyn John Gwalter John Reey Jenkin David Griffith Prees Beavant John Thomas Prees Jevan Prees

Jenkin Prees Morgan Prees Beavan William Llewelin Llewelin Prees, Howell Rees David Owen Llewelin Richard William Wm John Beavan Jenkin John Richard Morgan George William, Wm John ap John Katherine Howell Morgan Jones gent : Jenkin Wm. Llewelin Margaret Prytherch, Morgan Prytherch, Rees Wm Llewelin, Elizabeth Waters Rees William gent William John William, Jevan Thomas gent, Morgan Prees, William John, Griffith Llewelin William Beavan Howell Thomas Jevan Powell David Rees Morgan, Mary Morgan Widdow Griffith David Griffith Morgan Prees gent Llewelin David John Richard William Beavan Jonett Llewelin William Llewelin John Jenkin Gent : Jenkin Thomas Byvan Thos Prees Llewelin Jenkin Gent : Richard Prees David William Wm John ap John, William Morgan, John Llewelin Wm John Llewelin Morgan Thomas John Idem Jenkin Williams Gent : David Howell Llewelin Meredith Thomas Prees Griffith William Byvan Llewelin Gwilliams Gent : Watkin Lewis Rees Wm. Bevan Gent : Walter Willm Byvan, Agnest Llewelin Widdow Jenkin Griffith, Llinap Gwilliam Gwinn Thomas Morgan Griffith Plee, Jenett Rees Jevan Thomas Morgan Williams Gent :

The names of those that owe Suite &c. to Pwllcough Mill :—The Lands of William John Richard the Lands of Lewis Powell the Lands of William Bevan and David Phee, the Lands of William John William the Lands of Llewelin William and Evan Thomas the lands of John Thomas William, Isabell Vaughan. the lands of Howell Morgan the lands of Edward Press the lands of Rees Thomas the lands of Thomas William the lands of Evan David the lands of Elizabeth Morgan and Griffith Llewelin John the lands of Howell Jenkin the lands of Thomas Beavan Jenkin the lands of Gwilliam Morgan the lands of Gwenlyon vnr Evan, the lands of Lewis Prees the lands of Henry Prees the lands of Jonett Lewis, the lands of Evan Llewelin Howell Rees ap John David Rees David Byvan John Byvan, Jenkin Jevan, Morgan Samuell, Powell John, Prees William Rees William David Richard William Richard John Morgan Prees Jenkins Morgan Edmunds Pres Richard David Roger Symon Morgan John Morgan John Thomas Howell Thomas Morgan Prees John ap John, ychan David, William John Jevan William John Jevan Howell Morgan.

THE CUSTOMES OF YE SAID MILLS (VIZT)

Every of the said tennants are to appeere at the severall Mills they owe suit vnto upon sumons given them or left at their respective tenements vpon payne of tenn shillings.

The same tennts are to be ready vpon sumons to carry woode timber and stones for the Repayrein or Reedefieing of the said Mills at their owne cost and Charges vpon payne of tenn shill.

The said tennts are to carrye the Mill stones to ye Respective Mills from any place within the Bounds of the Lordship of Brecknock at their owne charges.

The Lord of the said Mills or his ffarmer may by the Custome enter into any of the said tennts Bond lands and cutt downe and carrye away any Woode and timber there groweing for the Repayreing and Reedifing of the said Mills.

Everye of the said tennts are bounde to come with his grist to the said Mills there to be grinded, and if any of them goe to any other Mill, to be amerced vpon every default three poundes.

And in case the Mills be not able to grinde or in Reedifing ye tennts are to staye there three dayes and three nights with their grist before hee or they goe to any other of the said Mills and are to give accompt what daye they grinde and to pay their Custome to the Lord or his ffarmer vpon the payne of three pounds vpon every default.

The said Tennts are to pay for grindeing their Wheat Rye Barley and Mault the twentieth part and of their Pilt-corn the tenth pt (part) and for grindeing the said Pilt-corn into Meal the twentieth part.

The tennts may not sell any Come or graine that shall growe vpon their Customarye lands to any pson (person) dwellinge out of the Customarye lands vntil he or they agree

with the Lord or the ffarmer of the said Mills for the tenth part there of or that shall carrye any the same to any ffree lands without agreement, vpon payne of three poundes everye default.

The Lord of the said Mills or his ffarmer maye have ffree Ingress Egress and Regress into any of the tennts lands where any watercoure passes to the said Mills there to Cutt Turffs and Woode for Repayre of the Dams and Banks without interruption.

That if any of the said Tennts doe give his daughter in Marriage he is to pay to the Lord or his ffarmer ffoure shill. and if any Mayde doe Committ fornication to pay ffoure shillings.

Every tennte dwelling vpon the said Lands that breedeth or keepeth above the number of two Swyne is to paye yearly three shillings ffoure pence to the Lord or his ffarmers or else to pay the third Swyne of all the Swyne he keepeth.

Memorandum that one Rees David ap John of the pish of Devinocke hath erected a Mill about 80 years since upon the River Canilies to the prejudice of Devinocke Mill aforesaid And that one Rees Williams of Istrodveltye hath erected a new Mill in Istrodveltye to the prejudice of the Custome Mill there. And one Jenken Phillipp of the pish of Pennderrin hath erected a Mill in the said Parish about three yeares since to the priudice (prejudice) of the Customarye Mill there

All which said Mills called Devinock Mill Llewellyn Mill Senny Mill Craye Mill Glintawye Mill Istrodveltye Mill and Pwllcock Mill wee finde in the tenure and occupacon of divers psons (persons) who possess the same in the right of one Thomas Awbrey Esqr whose claymes to hold the same by Lettrs Pattentes for divers yeares yett to come and vnexpired. But the said Thomas Awbrey Esqr could not pduce the same to vs by reason he hath left his habitation in the towne of Carmarthen since the Plague grewe violent there in. And where he hath left the said Lettrs Pattents in his dwelling house in the said Towne. But doth pmise to produce a coppie of the said Lettrs Pattents and to cause the same to be shewen to ye Honoble the Trustees and the Surveyor Generall according to the Act of Parliament.

Memorandum that notwithstanding all the said Customes Services and Priviledges belonging to the said Mills that they are for the most pt verie ruinous and much in decaye for want of Reedifieing and Repayracon But what penalty the ffarmer there of doth incurr thereby or howe or by what means his Leas is fforfeitable, and what Rents or other Covenants and Condicons he is lyable and bound vnto wee knowe not but submitt the same to be considered of vpon the pduceing of the Lttrs Pattentes or a coppye thereof as afforesaid.

This is ye Dicoverie of Mr David Morgan.

{ This Survy was pfected the }
{ 29th of October 1651 by us }
Exr p Will: Webb 1651

Totall Impvd value p Ann clviii/ vi s viii d
£158 6 8d)

JEREMIE BAINES
JOHN FFISKE
JOH HADDOCKE
SAMUELL COTTMAN

[Endorsed] Seven Mills called the Forrest Mills
Brecknock

Received this 4th of November 1651
Transmitted to the Srveyor Grall (Surveyor General)
the same day.

Augmentation Office, Parliamentary Surveys, Brecon, No. 4.

BRECON.

A Survey of a certain Poole or fishing Poole commonly called Llinsavathan als (alias) Mara Mota als Mara Blaen Lleuwyne being in and between the pishes (parishes) of Llanyhangle Tallythin Llangoos Kathedyn, Blaen Lleuwyne and Llangastey Tallythin in ye Countie of Brecon late pcell of the possessions of Charles Stuart late King of England made and taken by vs whose names are hereunto subscribed by vertue of a commission granted to us by ye Honble ye Trustees appointed by Act of ye Commons assembled in Parliament for sale of ye Honnrs Mannrs and Lands heretofore belonging to ye late King Quene and Prince vnder their hands and seales,

All that standing Poole, fishing Poole or Poole of Water with ye appten (appurtenances) commonly called Llinsavathan als Mary Mota als Blaenlauence standing and being in ye pishes (parishes) of Llanghangle Tally Llin Llangoose Kathedyn Blaen Lleuwyne and Llangastey in the Countie of Brecknock being by common esti (estimation) two miles in lenth and one in breadth with the ffishing thereof being well stored with Eles Pykes and Perches which said Poole is fedd or supplied by a small river commonly called Llyuwyne als Llyvey which runneth from Blaen Lleuwyne through ye said Poole and along vnder a Certaine Bridge called Pontadd Llaneyge (?) or Llanuey bridge below which said Bridge are two weares commonly called the Kings weares belonging to ye said Poole and ye ffishing thereof At which said weares are good store of Eles taken in potts at ye season of the yeare for catching of the same which said weares with ye ffishing of the said Poole with all the Lyberties Royalties preuiledges Jurisdiccions franchises Imunities and advantages to ye said Poole and the ffishing therein and of the said Weares called ye Kings Weares and the ffishing thereof wee estimate to bee worth p Ann—xxl (£20)

Memorandum wee fynd the ffishing in the said Pools and Weares in the tenure and occupacion of one Walter Powell of Llangoose and others with him who claimes to hold the same in the right of the Lady Williams ye Relict of Henry Williams Barrt deceased, vnder certeine yearlie rents and services which said Lady Williams claimes (by Mr Edward Prosser who appeared for her) to hold the said ffishing and Weares for divers yeares yet to come and vnexpired by vertue of a Lease granted to the said Barrt Williams And the said Mr Prosser doth affirme yt (that) the Poole ffishing and Weares aforesaid were passed in fee ffarme by Queene Elizabeth vnto Sr Thomas Trevor Knt and others vnder the yearlie fee ffarme rente of thirtie six shillings and that by vertue of the said fee ffarme grant the said Poole ffishing and Weares are conveyed vnto Willm Morgan Esqr in Reversion after the expiration of the Lease granted to ye said Barrt Williams, But forasmuch as neyther any Lease or Pattent from the Crowne for the said Poole ffishing and Wears was pduced (produced) to vs, though summons given to show the same therefore wee returne ye same in possession valued as abovesaid

Memorandum ye said Willm Morgan Esq claims some interest or prueledge of ffishing in the said Poole at some certaine times of ye yeare as belonging to the Lopp (Lordship) of Brecknock but wee knowe not by what right neyther doth it appeare that that there hath been any vsage or enjoyment thereof.

Memorandum also wee are informed that Mr Arnoll of London claims some

Libertie to ffish in the said Poole at certaine times and seasons of the yeare but wee doe not find yt (that) ever the same was vsed or enioyed (enjoyed) Vallue p Ann—xxl (£20)

This survey was pfected ye 6th September
1653 by vs vizt

JEREMIE BAINES
SAMUEL COTTMAN
JOH HADDOCKE

This is ye discoverie of David Morgan Esqr

[Endorsed] A Fishing Poole called Llinsavathan in ye Countie of Brecon

Received the 16th of September 1653

Transmitted to the Srveyor Grall (Surveyor General) the same day.

9 October, Mr Wm Morgan of Therwy Esq. layes Clayme to this.

Augmentation Office, Parliamentary Survey, Brecon, No. 5.

BRECON

MALVERNE LLANSPYTHETT CUM JURIBS MEMBS AND APPTINENTIBS.

A Survey of ye (Lopp) of Malverne Llanspythett and of ye free rents and Royalties thereof, with ye Rights memb^r and appurtenances thereof, Scituate Lying and being within ye Parish of Llanspythett in ye Countye of Brecknocke sometimes parcel of ye Monasterye of Malverne Major late pcell (parcel) of ye possessions of Charles Stuart late King of England made and taken by vs whose names are herevnto subscriybed by vertue of a Commission granted to vs by ye Honoble ye Trustees appoynted by Act of ye Comons assembled in Parliament for sale of ye Honnrs Mannrs and Lands heretofore belonging to ye late Kinge Queene and Prince vnder their hands and seales

The ffree rents payable to ye Lord of Malverne Llanspythett by sevall persons which hold divers lands and tenements of ye Lord thereof payable yearly at Michs onely are p ann—xlii s i d ob (£2 2s 1d½)

The Courts Barron and Court Leetes and Lawdayes, fynes and amerccants of Courts, Issues, ffynes, Heryotts, Waves, Estrayes, deodands, ffellons goods, goods of ffellons of them selves, of fugatives and Condemned psons, Hawkeing Hunting fflowing and ffishing and all other pfitts, comodites and pequesits to ye Royaltie thereof belonging or anywaies apptayneing we estimate to be worth Combs annis (Communibus annis)—xiii s iiiii d (13s 4d)

Some totall of ffree rents and Royalties are p ann—lvs v d ob—(£2 15s 5½)

HOWSE AND LITTLE MEADE

All that dwelling house with the appurtenances commonly called Lluellins house scituate and being in ye Parish of Llanspythett and pcell (parcel) of the said Lopp (Lord

ship) with a cowhouse there unto adjoyninge Together with one close and pcell of meddow ground comonly called ye Lytle Meade adioyning to ye house Abbutted on ye East by certayne grounds belonging to one Mr Walbye, on ye South by certayne houses and grounds in ye tenure of one Harris and one Pritchard, on the West by ye Lands of Mr Hoe Games And on ye North by ye Hygh way or road leadinge from Llanspythett to Breckenock contayneing by estimacon one acre and a roode more or les which wee value to bee worth p ann—xiii s iiiii d (13s 4d)

RABAGH CLOSE

All that close and pcell of pasture and arable ground with the apptenances (the appurtenances) comonly called ye Rabagh Close als Litleclose lying and being in ye said Parish, Abutted on ye East by a certayne close called Teere vord, on ye South by a certayne close called ye Randyro, on ye West by ye Lands of one Mr Jenkins And on ye North by ye lands of Mr Walbye afforesaid contayneing by estimacon one acre and a halfe more or less which wee value to bee worth p ann—01 2 08 xv s (15s)

TEEREVORD

All that close and pcell of pasture and arable ground with the apptenances comonly called ye Teerevord lying and being in ye said pish Abutted on ye East by a certayne close called ye Durtie acre on ye South by ye Randyro close on ye West by ye litle close last recyted And on ye North by certayne grounds in ye tenure of Mr Walbeiffe afforesaid contayning by estimacon two acre and a halfe more or less which wee value to bee worth p ann—02 2 00 xx s (20s)

RANDYRO CLOSE

All that close and pcell of pasture and arable ground with ye apptenances comonly called ye Randyro Close lying and being in ye said pish Abutted on East and on ye West by certayne grounds of Mr Howell Jefferyes, on ye South by ye lands of Mr Hoe Games afforesaid, and on ye North by ye two closes last recyted contayneing by estimacon ffoure acres more or les which wee value to bee worth p ann—04 0 86 xxviii s (£1 8 0)

RUDRESSION CLOSE

All that close and pcell of Meddow or arable gronnd with the apptenances comonly called ye Glebdeere als ye Wettgroundes lying and being within ye said Parish Abutted on ye East and West by certayne grounds in ye tenure and occupacion of David Griffith, on ye South by certayne grounds of Mr Hoe Games, And on ye North by certayne grounds belonging to Mr Harris containing by estimacion two acres and a half more or les which wee value to bee worth p ann—02 2 00 xv s (15s)

PATTENT CLOSE.

All that close and pcell of Arable ground with the apptenances (the appurtenances) comonly called ye Pattent Close lying and being in Parish afforesaid Abutted on ye East by a certayne close called ye Pederero, on ye South by a high way leading from Brecknocke to Caermarthen, and ye West by certaine grounds belonging to Mr Hoe Games, And on ye North by ye grounds belonging to Mr Walbeife contayneing by estimacon eight acres more or les which wee value to bee worth p ann—08 0 80 xxvi s viii d (£1 6 8)

PEDER ERO CLOSE'

All that close and pcell of arable ground with the apptenances (the appurtenances) commonly called Pederero, lying and being in ye said Parish Abutted on ye East by certaine grounds belonging to Mr Hoe Games afforesaid, on ye South by ye high way ffrom Brecknocke to Caermarthen afforesaid, on ye West by ye Pattent close last recyted. And on ye North by ye lands of Mr Walbeiffe contayneing by estimacon eight acres more or les which wee value to bee worth p ann—88 0 0 xxvi s vii d (£1 6 8)

RERODUMTID CLOSE.

All that close and pcell (parcel) of arable ground with the apptenances (the appurtenances) comonly called ye Rerodumtid als (alias) ye Durty acre lying and being in ye Parish afforesaid Abutted on ye North and on ye East by ye lands of David Griffith, on ye South by ye Randiro close affore recyted And on ye West by ye Teerevord close afforesaid contayneing by Estimacion one acre and a half more or les which wee value to be worth p ann—01 2 00 xiii s iiii d (18s 4d)

And all wayes passages, Lyberties, priviledges ffranchyses, Imunities, Jurisdiccions, pfitts (profitts) Comodities, advantages and apptenances what soeur (soever) to ye said Lopp (Lordship) or tenement and lands or to any of them belonging or any wayes appertaineing or which have been hereto-fore vsed occupied and enjoyed as part pcell and member of them or any of them.

A rentall of ye free rents of ye Mannr or Lopp of Malverne Lanspythett payable at Michs onely vizt

	l	s	d			l	s	d
Hoe Games Esq	00 03 02	Wm Howell	...	...	00 01 11	
David Griffith	00 07 03	Jenkin John	...	..	00 00 03	
Edward David	00 00 08	Wm Griffith	...	...	00 03 00	
Thomas Wm Lewis	00 04 04	Thomas Lloyd	...	...	00 01 00	
Henry John Prichard	00 00 03	David Jones	...	..	00 01 00	
John Howell	00 00 07	Howell Williams	...	..	00 00 06	
Lisly Williams	00 00 07	Thomas Morgan	...	..	00 00 06	
Wm Thomas	00 01 05	Roger Watkins	...	..	00 00 06	
Jenett Harrye	00 02 06	Ruthrough David	...	...	00 01 02	
John Watkin	00 00 10	Roger Thomas				
John Jefferyes Gent	00 01 08	The wife of John ap Jone				
Wm Howell	00 00 06	John Watkin Phillipp				
Jenkin Griffith	00 80 03					

MEMORANDUMS

Memorandum that Thomas Herring who hath sometime collected ye rents of ye said Lopp (Lordship) doth informe and depose that ye totall some of ye quitrents payable every yeare by ye free holders are xlii s i d (£2 2 1 $\frac{1}{2}$) bnt cold pduce (could produce) noe rentall, neyther could wee find out ye Residue of ye said Rents, by reason of ye disperst Habitations of ye said freeholders and ye discontinuation of ye stewards and courts occasioned by contests in law betwixt Thomas Pryce Esqr and Sir Walter Pye both of them pretending an interest in ye said Lopp

The Court Leetes and Court Barron should bee holden twice everye yeare at ye vsuall place and times of the yeare at ye will of ye Lord

The freeholders doe owe suit and service to ye Lord at ye said Courts

There is due to ye Lord ffor a heryott certayne vpon any freeholders death or alienacon of any of his Lands ye some of seaven shillings

Memorandum wee make noe re pryse for any of ye officers of ye said Lopp (Lordship) because wee ffind none in being neyther could wee bee informed what ffees have bene vsuall allowed to ye said officers

Memorandum that ye house and seuell closes before menconed are in ye tenure and occupacon of one Wm Howell Llewelin who claims to hold ye same in ye Right of Sr Walter Pye, which said Sr Walter Pye receives ye pfitts (profits) thereof and claymes an Interest in ye said Lopp and ffarme but by what right and tytle hee receives and claimes ye same wee know not for that noe Evidence hath beene pduced to vs though Sumoned therevuto, Wherefore we return ye same in possession valued as abouvesaid This Claime to be made good

Some totall of prsent (present) rents and futur (?) improvements are p ann—
xi l xiii s v d ob (£11 18 5½)

Totall of acres 82 1 00

This Survey was pfected this 28th of October 1651 by vs vizt

Exd p Will Webb 1651

JEREMIE BAINES
JOH HADDOCKE
SAMUELL COTTMAN
JOHN FFISHE

[Endorsed] The Manour of Malverne Llanspithett Brecknock

Recd. this 4th of November 1651

Transmitted to the Srveyor Grall the same day,

BAINES.

Augmentation Office, Parliamentary Surveys, Brecon, No. 6.

BRECKNOCKE, S.S.

HUNDLYE MILLS

A Survey of Hunddy Mills with the rights members and appurtenances thereof scituate standing and being in the Parish of St Johns in Brecknocke in the Countye of Brecknocke late parcell of the possessions of Charles Stuart late King of England made and taken by vs whose names are hereunto subscribed. By vertue of a Commission granted to vs by the Honble ye Trustees appointed by Act of parliament for sale of the Honnrs Mannrs and Lands heretofore belonging to the late King Queene and Prince vnder there hands and seales:

All those two Water Mills with the appurtenances commonly called the Huddye Mills alias the Hunthye Mills scituate standing and being vpon the River Huddye in the parish of St. Johns in the Towne of Brecknocke the one whereof is a Water Grist Mill the other a Malt Mill and both of them vnder one rooffe together with a Kilne standing and being near vnto the said Mill wherein oates and malt are vsually dried all which said Mill and Kilne wee Estimate to be worth per Ann—£30.

All that little peece and parcell of ground with the appurtenances commonly called the Milne padocke lying and being in the said parish and neare vnto the said Kilne Abutted on the East South and West by the Mill Streame and on the North by the River Hunthye aforesaid containing by Estimacion sixtye perches more or les, now in the tenure and occupacion or one Richard Willm Pritchard who holds the same in the right of Baronett Willms which said padocke wee vallue to be worth per Ann—00 1 20—10s.

And all wayes passages Liberties priuiledges Tolls Mulcktures Mill ponds Mill Streams Mill Dams Water Corses floodgates sluces and all other profitts Commodities advantages and appurtenances whatsoever to the said Mills, Kilne and padocke or to any of them belonging or in any wise apperteniug or which have byrn heretofore vsed occupied or enjoyed as part parcell and member of them or any of them.

Which said Mills wee ffynd in the tenure and occupacion of one Merridith Powell who holds the same by Indenture of Lease dated the ffourth of November 24 Carr. for 21 years granted vnto him by one Baronett Willms, but the said Baronett Willms hath produced noe evidence to vs whereby it might appeare that hee hath any right or title to the said Mills Kilne and padock although summoned therevnto wherefore wee returne the same in possession vallued as abovesaid.

Memorandum the said Baronett Willms or Meredith Powell afforesaid doth paye yearly the sum of six poundes to the receiver of the Revenue ffor the said Mills and appurtenances afforesaid as wee are informed.

Memorandum the said Mills and Kilne are in verry good repaire but have noe certaine tennants bound to the said Mills by reason whereof they are of no better vallue.

Total Improved vallue p Ann—£30 10 0

This Survey was perfected this 28th of October 1651 by vs vizt

JERMIE DAVIES
JOHN FFISHE
SAMUELL COTTMAN
JOH HADDOCKE

[Endorsed] Hundy Mills in the parish of St Johns Brecknocke

Received this 4th of November 1651

Transmitted to the Surveyor Generall same day

BAINES.

Augmentation Office, Parliamentary Survey, Brecon, No. 7.

BRECON S S.

BURGES MILL.

A survey of a ffulling Mill comonly called Burges Mill with ye rights Members and appurtenances thereof Scituate and being in Brecknocke, and in ye County of Brecknocke within ye Dominion of Wales late parcellof ye possessions of Charles Stuart late king of England made and taken by vs whose names are herevnto subscrybed by vertue of a Comission granted to vs by ye Honorable ye Trustees appoynted by Act of ye Comons assembled in Parliament for sale of ye Honnors Mannors aud Lands heretofore belonging to ye late King Queene and Prince vnder their hands and seales

All that ffulling Mill with the appurtenances comonly called Burges Mill scituate near Hunddye Bridge in ye said County with a garden therevnto adjoining. Abutted on ye East by ye Honddye River, on ye South by ye Honddye Bridge and ye way leading to the Pryorye, on ye East by Mr Paynatts house and garden, And on ye North by ye Pryory Wood All which wee Estimate to be worth p ann—£4 10 0

And All waies passages Liberties priviledges Waters and Watercourses ffloodgates profitts Comodities, advantages and appurtenances whatsoever to ye said Mill belonging or in any waies appertaineing or which hath been heretofore vsed occupied and enjoyed as part parcell and member thereof

Memorandum wee find ye said Mill with the appurtenances in ye tenure and occupacion of one Thomas Watkins who holds ye same in ye right of Mr John Price But by what right ye said Pryce claimes to hold ye same wee know not though summoned therevnto and therefore we returne ye same in possession valued as above said

This title to be made good

Totall y ann—£4 10 0

This Survey was perfected the 30th of December 1652 by vs

JOHN FFISKE
JOH HADDOCKE
SAMUELL COTTMAN

Examined by Will Webb

This is ye Discoverye of Mr Wm Phillipps

[Endorsed] A Fulling mill called Burges Mill Brecon

Received this 28 December 1652

Transmitted to the Surveyor Generall the same day.

Augmentation Office, Parliamentary Survey, Brecon, No. 8.

BRECON S.S.

DOMINIUM PENKELLY WALLENSIS CUM JURIBUS MEMBRIS ET APPURTENTIBUS.

A Survey of the Mannr or Lopp of Penkellye Wallenses alias ye Welche Penkelly with the rights members and appurtenances thereof scituate lying and beinge in the parish of Llanvigan within the Countye of Brecon within the Dominion of Wales late parcell of the possessions of Charles Stuart late King of England made and taken by vs whose names are hereunto snbscribed by vertue of a Commission granted to vs by the Honourable the Trustees appointed by Act of ye Commons Assembled in parliament for sale of ye Honnors Mannors and Lands hereto belonging to the late King Queene and Prince vnder their hands and seales.

The free rents payable to the Lord of the Mannor of Penkellye Wallenses by severall persons which hold divers lands and tenements of the Lord thereof payable yearly at Michas onely are p Ann—£3 12 5.

The Comhortha is a certaine rent due and payable to the Lord of the said Mannor everye other yeare by the freeholders of the said Lordshipp and also for certaine mountaines are thirtye shillings payable in everye Maye everye second yeare which wee vallue to bee worth p Ann—14s. 6d.

The Courts Baron and Courte Leets and Lawdayes ffynes and amerciaments of Courts Issues Herriotts Waifes Estrayes Deodans ffellons goods Goods of ffellons of themselves of fugative and of condemned persons Hawkeing Hunting ffowleing fishing and all other profitts and perquesitts to the Royaltie thereto belonging or in any waies appertaining wee estimate to bee worth Communibus Annis—80s

Some totall of free rents Comhorths and Royalties are p Ann—£5 16 11.

All that piece and parcell of inclosed ground with the appurtenances nowe in the tenure and occupacion of one Edward Havard being an Incroachment made by him vpon the Common called Gwayny Kyver and part of the highwaye leading from Killegrowne to ye said Common being part of the Lords wast within the said Lordshipp containing by Estimacion half an acre more or les which wee vallue to be worth p Ann—00-2-00—2s. 0d.

A Rentall of the free rents of the Mannor of Penkelly Walenses payable to the Lord thereof at Michas onely are as followeth vitz

	li	s	d
Thomas Powell for Lands called the Maesmar and Tyr penny nor-land p Ann	00	08 04
Willm Jno Howell for Lands called the Pauntagwine p Ann	00	08 00
Willm Gunter gent for Lands called the Tyrry Button per Ann	00	01 02
Willm Prichard p An	00	00 05
Evan Willm for Lands called ye Paunty Liveryee p Ann	00	02 01
Willm Bevan for Lands called ye Cornewall p Ann	00	01 02
Jno Morgan p Ann	00	01 08
Jenkin Thomas p Ann	00	01 08
Katherin Llewellyn for Lands called the Tyreheare p Ann	00	01 08
Howell Evan for Lands called ye Panytwyny p Ann	00	00 08

	<i>li</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>d</i>
Howell David p Ann	00	00	05
Mr Games Lands called ye Blane y nant in Llanvigan p Ann	00	02	08
Charles Walbeiffe Esqr for Lands called ye Comorgan p Ann	00	00	10
Meredith Lewis Esqr for Lands call the Blaentave veghan p Ann	00	01	04
The heires of Thomas Edwards p Ann	00	02	08
Evan Pritchard p Ann	00	00	02
Roger Thomas for Lands called the Rewe p Ann	00	00	06
The Lady Bewchamp for Lands called ye Rewe p Ann	00	00	06
Morgan Thomas for Lands called the Tully Growne p Ann	00	02	08
John Jefferyes for Lands in Tavevechan p Ann	00	02	09
Jenkin Prees for Lands called the Pedole p Ann	00	01	04
Evans David Meredith p Ann	00	00	11
Lewis Jones for Lands in Tavevechan per Ann	00	00	05
Thomas Powell p Ann	00	00	10
John Maddox for Lands in Blaengallen p Ann	00	01	04
Evan Thomas per Ann	00	06	00
Jenkin Thomas p Ann	00	00	10
Howell Thomas p Ann	00	00	08
Edward David for Lands in Blaengrawen p Ann	00	01	00
Richard Jenkins p Ann	00	00	05
Howell Prees p Ann	00	00	10
John Lewis p Ann	00	00	04
John Thomas of Penny Baylyffe p Ann	00	00	10
John Thomas of Geuan for Lands called ye Keuen p Ann	00	00	06
John Gunter for Lands called the Gwerngafer p Ann	00	01	02
Richard David for Lands called the Gwernddy p Ann	00	00	10
John Jenkins p Ann	00	00	04
Willm John ap John p Ann	00	02	06
Thomas ap Evan p Ann	00	00	02½
The Heires of Edw Games p Ann	00	00	02½
Howell John Llewellyn p Ann	00	01	02
John Jenkin Morgan p Ann	00	00	09
Thomas Bowen for Lands called the Tyre y groes p Ann	00	00	08
David ap Evan for Lands called the Reytye p Ann	00	00	08
Jane Watkin p Ann	00	00	07
Evan Powell p Ann	00	00	04
The Heires of David Powell p Ann	00	00	10
Thomas ap Bowen p Ann			
			08 02 05

A Rental of the Comhorth the rents payable in Maye every Second yeare vizt

	<i>li</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>d</i>		<i>li</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>d</i>
Thomas Powell	00	02	00	Morgan Thomas	00	02	08
Evan Williams	00	02	01	Thomas ap Evan	00	00	02½
Willm Beavan	00	01	02	The heirs of Edw Games	00	00	02½
Jno Morgan	00	01	08	John Jenkin Morgan	00	00	09
Jenkin Thomas	00	01	08	Evan Powell	00	00	04
Katherine Llewellyn	00	01	08	The heires of David Howell	00	00	10
Howell Evan	00	00	08	ffor ye Mountaine Comorcarn	00	08	00
Mr James	00	02	08	ffor ye Mountaine Brime			
Willm Jno ap Jno	00	02	06	Glisson	00	08	00
				ffor ye Mountaine Terrybrun	00	04	00
							01 10 01

MEMORANDUMS

Memorandum that ye Bayliffe or Reeve of the said Lordshipp doth vsally in everye second yeare in Maye make distress of any goods and Chattels which shall be depastureing vpon each of the said Mountaines for the said severall somes of Money due as a Comortha and the person or persons whomsoever ownes of such goods or Chattels are to paye the said somes before the release of theire goods or Chattels soe distrained vpon every the said Mountaines.

The Courts Baron and Court Leete and Lawdaye may bee holden twice every yeare at ye vsuall place and times of the yeare at the will of the Lord

A three weeks Court also hath bynn vsuallly holden wherin actions vnder ffortye shillings are tryed by a Jurye of six ffree holders

All the ffreeholders doe owe suite and service to the Lord of the said Mannor or Lordshipp at ye said Courts

The ffreeholders doe pay for a Herriott certaine vpon death or Alienacion tenn shillings to the Lord of the said Mannor

There is a Common called Alevygan belonging to the said Lordship.

Memorandum wee make noe reprise for any the officers of the said Lordshipp because wee finde none in being neyther could wee bee informed what fees have bynn vsuallly allowed to ye said officers.

Memorandum that wee are informed that Baronett Willms hath bynn formerly high steward and received the rents and profitts of the said Lordshipp but by what right and title wee know not for that hee hath produced no evidence vnto vs though summoned thereunto wherefore wee returne ye same in possession vallued as abovesaid

Some totall of present rents and Royalties are p Ann—£5 8 11

This Title to be made good within tyme

This Survey was perfected thls 28th October 1651 by vs vizt

SAMUELL COTTMAN
JEREMIE DAVIES
JOH HADDOCKE
JOHN FFISKE

Exr p Will Webb 1651

[Endorsed] The Manour of Penkelley Wallensis Brecknock

Received this 4th of November 1651

Transmitted to the Surveyor Generall the same day

BAINES.

Augmentation Office, Parliamentary Survey, Brecon, No. 9.

BRECKNOCK, S.S.

THE MANNOR OF YE WELCH HAYE WITH YE RIGHTS MEMBERS AND APPURTENANCES THEREOF.

A Survey of the Mannor of Welch hey with the rights members and appurtenances thereof in ye parish of Llanigon in the Countie of Brecknock late parcell of the possessions of Charles Stuarde late King of England made and taken by vs whose names are hereunto subscribed. By vertue of a Commission granted to vs by the Honourable the Trustees appoynted by Act of the Commons Assembled in Parliament for sale of ye Honnours Mannors and Lands heretofore belonging to ye late King Queene and Prince vnder their hands and seales.

All those ffree rents due from divers persons holding Lands and tenements of the Mannor of Welch heye in the parish of Llanigon in the Countie of Brecknocke payable to the Lord thereof for a half yeares rent at Easter yearlie are p Ann—£4 15 0

The like ffree rents due from the said persons for their Lands and tenements afforesaid which they hold of the said Mannor of Welch heye payable to the Lord thereof for a half yeares rent at Michalemas yearlie are p Ann—£4 15 0

All that Comorth silver and purse silver beeing a certain money due from divers persons within the said Mannor in relation to their keeping of Cowes and other services and Customes according to the ancient custom and vsage thereof payable to ye Lord of the said Mannor euerie second Yeare amounting to the some of nyne pounds which wee estimate to bee worth Communibus Annis—£4 10 0

The Courts Leet and Lawdaye and three weeks Court ffynes and amerciaments of Waifes Estraires Deodans ffellons goods Goods of ffellons of themselves of fugatives and condemned persons ffynes vpon alienation and discent herriots Releifs Hawking Hnnting ffloweing ffishing and all other Royalties iurisdiccions proffitts commodities advantages and appurtenances of the said Mannor to the Royaltie thereof belonging or in any wise appertaining wee estimate to be worth Communibus Annis—£5 5 0

Scme total of rents and Royalties are p Ann—£19 5 0

All which said Mannor with the appurtenances we fynd in ye tenure of DD Gwyn Esq who (as we are informed) claymes to hold the same for divers yeares yett to come, but by what right hee holds the same wee knowe not for that noe evidence hath been produced vnto vs though summoned thereunto therefore wee returne the same in possession vallued as afforesaid

This Clayme to bee made good within tyme

MEMORANDUMS.

A Court Leet is holden for the said Mannor twice everie yeare about Michas and Easter according to ancient Custome and vsage and also a three weeks Court for Tryall of actions vnder fforty shillings.

All ffree holders and resiants doe owe suit to the Courts and are amercable vpon default.

There is due to the Lord of the said Mannor vpon death of any ffreeholder a Herriott of ye second best beast any such ffreeholder dyes seased of according to Custome.

There is due also to the Lord of the said Mannor vpon euerie alienation the some of ffive shillings in name of a fyne.

A rental of the said Mannor as perfect as we cold have vpon the oath of ye Bayliffe of ye said Mannor paid one half at Easter and ye other at Michas

	li	s	d		li	s	d
Earle of Hartford	Jno Gunter ..	...	00	04 00
ffrederick Vaghan Esqr	Walter Gunter .	...	00	08 08
Willm Watkins Esqr	00	00 04	Walter Powell ...	...	00	01 00
Tho Watkins Esqr	00	01 00	Willm Pritchard ...	...	00	04 00
Hen Willms Esqr	Georg Powell ..	...	00	07 00
Rich James	00	02 08	James Gunter ..	...	00	06 00
James Willms gent	00	14 00	Tho Jno Watkins ..	...	00	04 00
James Watkins	00	08 04	Tho Prosser ...	...	00	04 00
Watkin Powell Jenkin	00	05 00	Jno Willcocke ...	...	00	00 08½
Watkin Lewis	00	02 06	Jno Tho Lewis ..	...	00	01 00
Roger Phillips	Thomas Whitwey ...	...	00	02 00
Watkin Powell Jenkin	00	08 04	Phillip Powell ...	...	00	00 08
Jeuan Watken	00	02 00	Watkyn Jno Bryan .	...	00	00 08
Rich Gunter	00	04 08	Jno Parrye ...	...	00	00 02
George Phillips	00	00 05	Tho Watkin ...	...	...	...
Willm Perrott	00	08 04	James David Byvan ...	...	00	00 03
Tho John David	00	00 06	Jno Powell David and }	...	00	00 05
Phillip George	00	02 06	Willm Lewis ...	...	00	01 08
Eustace Lewis	00	01 04	Lewis ap Lewis ...	...	00	01 08
DD Willm	00	08 02	Willm Shelton ...	...	00	01 08
Watkin Jno	00	01 04	Willm Prees weaver ...	...	00	00 02
Willm Lewis Watkin	00	00 08	DD Willm Jenkin weaver	...	00	00 04
Willcock Jno	00	02 04	DD Lloyd ...	...	...	...
David Perrie	00	05 00	James Parrye ..	...	00	02 02
Jno ap John	00	02 00	Tho Jones ..	...	00	01 10
Tho David	00	03 08	Jno Pugh ...	...	...	...
Wm Tho Jno David	00	02 06½	Will Jno Pritchard ...	...	00	01 00
David Wilcocke	00	01 00	Willm Delahaye ...	...	...	...
Evan Willm Jenken	00	01 06	Willm Prees ...	...	...	...
Myles Willms	00	02 00	The village of Glynvache	...	01	16 00
Willim De la haye	00	01 06				

Some totall of rents and Royalties p Ann—£19 15 0

Exd by Will Webb 1652

JEREMIE BAINES

This survey was perfected ye 8rd of Januarie 1652 by vs vizt

SAMUELL COTTMAN

JOHN FFISKE

This is ye discoverie of Willm Phillips

[Endorsed] The Manour of Welch Hey in the Countie of Brecon

Received the 4th of Januarie 1652

Transmitted to the Surveyor Generall the same day.

[This concludes the Parliamentary Surveys for Breconshire.]

INQUISITIONS POST MORTEM.

The King was entitled to certain fees upon the death of anyone who held lands of him *in capite* or chief, therefore Inquisitions were taken to ascertain what lands a man held, of whom held, by what rent, etc.

If the heir was under age, the King had the wardship of him and his lands until he attained his full age. This wardship was often bought of the King for a large sum by some relative. When the heir came of age there were fees to pay, Inquisitions ceased practically after the Commonwealth—some few only were held in the reign of Charles II.

[TRANSLATED FROM THE LATIN.]

WILLIAM AWBREY, DOCTOR OF LAWS 1595.

CHANCERY INQUISITION POST MORTEM, 38 ELIZ., No. 85.

BRECON, A.D. 1595.

Inquisition indented taken at Brecon 21 November in the 38th year of the reign of the Lady Elizabeth by the Grace of God Queen of England France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c., before Jenkin Llm esq., escheator of the said Lady the Queen in the county of Brecon aforesaid, by virtue of a writ of the said Lady the Queen *de diem clausit extremum* to the said escheator directed and to this inquisition annexed, to enquire after the death of William Awbrey Doctor of Laws one of the Masters of the Court of Requests of the said Lady the Queen, deceased, by the oath of John Vaughan, Thomas ap John, John Richard, John Thomas, junior, William John al goz, John William Llm, Howell Edward, Philip Watkin, John William ap Jevan goz, Gllm ap Jevan Jenkins, Owen Thomas ap Jenn ap owen, John Thomas David, William David, William Howell, John Scull and Howell William Powell, which said jurors aforesaid say upon their oath that the aforesaid William Awbrey Doctor of Laws long before his death was seized in his demesne as of fee of and in the manor of Aberkinvrick with the appurtenances in the county aforesaid, and of and in one water grain mill with the appurtenances called Kinvrickes Mlle now in the tenure possession and occupation of Edwardi Awbrey, esquire, lying and situate in the several parishes of Llanvrenach St. John the Evangelist and St. David's, and that the said manor and mill aforesaid with the appurtenances are held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey Doctor of Laws were held of the said Lady the Queen that now is as of her manor of Brecon in the county aforesaid by knights service, to wit, by the eighth part of one knights fee. And also that the aforesaid William Awbrey long before his death was seized in his demesne as of fee of and in one messuage and the lands and tenements thereto belonging lying and situate in the parish of Llanvrenach in the county aforesaid now in the tenure possession and occupation of Jevan Rosser, of which messuage and the lands and tenements to the same belonging one part is held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey was held of the said Lady the Queen that now is as of her manor of Penkelly Walonica (Welsh) in the county aforesaid and the other part is held and on the day of the death of the said William Awbrey was held of Richard Herbert, Esq., as of his manor of Penkelly Anglia (English) in the county aforesaid in free and common socage by fealty, suit at court and by the yearly rent of 6d., to be paid to the said

Lady the Queen in the Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary the Virgin 8d., and in the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel 3d. yearly. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that the aforesaid William Awbrey long before his death was seized in his demesne as of fee of and in one messuage and the lands and tenements thereto belonging lying and situate in the parish of Llanvrenach aforesaid in the county aforesaid now in the tenure possession and occupation of Roger ap John, which said messuage and the lands and tenements thereto belonging are held and on the day of the death of the said William Awbrey were held of Richard Herbert, esq., as of his manor of Penkelly Anglia (English) in the county aforesaid in free and common socage by fealty and suit at court. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that the aforesaid William Awbrey long before his death was seized in his demesne as of fee of and in one messuage and the lands and tenements to the same belonging lying and situate in the parish of Llanvrenach aforesaid in the county aforesaid now in the tenure possession and occupation of William John Edmond, of which said messuage and the lands and tenements thereto belonging one part is held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey was held of the said Lady the Queen that now is as of her manor of Penkelly Walonica (Welsh) aforesaid in the county aforesaid in free and common socage by fealty and suit at court; and the other part is held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey was held of Richard Herbert, Esq., as of his manor of Penkelly Anglia (English) aforesaid in the county aforesaid in free and common socage by fealty and suit of court. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that the aforesaid William Awbrey long before his death was seized in his demesne as of fee of and in one messuage and the lands and tenements to the same belonging lying and situate in the parish of Llanvrenach aforesaid in the county aforesaid now in the tenure possession and occupation of Griffin ap Howell trahern and that the same are held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey were held of the said Lady the Queen that now is in free and common socage as of her Manor of Penkelly Walonica (Welsh) aforesaid in the county aforesaid by fealty, suit of court, and the yearly rent of 2d. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say, that the aforesaid William Awbrey long before his death was seized in his demesne as of fee of and in one parcel of land lying and situate in the parish of Llanvrenach aforesaid in the county aforesaid now in the tenure possession and occupation of Jevan Thomas, which said parcel of land is held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey was held of John Walbis, esq., in free and common socage as of his manor of Penkelly Anglia (English) aforesaid in the county aforesaid by fealty and suit at court. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that the aforesaid William Awbrey long before his death was seized in his demesne as of fee of and in two messuages and the lands and tenements to the same belonging lying and situate in the parish of St. Davids in the county aforesaid now in the several tenures possessions and occupations of Lewis John Llins and Watkin David ap Jevan which are held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey were held of the said Lady the Queen that now is as of her manor of Brecon in the county aforesaid in free and common socage by fealty suit at court and the yearly rent of 8s. 1d., to be paid every other year 6s. 3d. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that the aforesaid William Awbrey long before his death was seized in his demesne as of fee of and in one messuage and the lands and tenements to the same belonging lying and situate in the parish of St. Davids now in the tenure possession and occupation of John Jenkin David Whith. And of and in one parcel of land lying and situate in the same parish late in the tenure possession and occupation of Walter Winter, esq., which are held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey were held of the said Lady the Queen that now is as of her manor of Brecon in the county aforesaid by fealty, and suit at court in free socage. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that the aforesaid William Awbrey long before his death was seized in his demesne as of fee of and in one messuage and the lands and tenements to the same belonging lying and situate in the parish of St. Davids aforesaid in the county aforesaid now in the tenure possession and occupation of John Awbrey, Esq., which are held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey were held of the said Lady the Queen that now is as of her manor of Brecon in the county aforesaid in free and common socage by fealty, suit of court and the yearly rent of 5s. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that the aforesaid William Awbrey long before his death was seized

in his demesne as of fee and in one messuage with the lands and tenements thereto belonging lying and situate in the parish of Cantreff in the county aforesaid now in the tenure possession and occupation of Philip William Meredith, which are held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey were held of the said Lady the Queen that now is as of her manor of Brecon aforesaid in the county aforesaid in free and common socage by fealty, suit at court and by the yearly rent of 7½d. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that the aforesaid William Awbrey long before his death was seized in his demesne as of fee of and in the yearly rent of 17s. 2d. issuing out of the lands and tenements of William Medd Powell, John William ap Jevan coz and Phillip David ap Owen. to wit, out of the lands and tenements of William Meredith ap Howell lying and being in the parish of Llanthewe yearly 6s. 6d., out of the lands and tenements of John William ap Jevan coz lying and situate in the parish of Llanthewe aforesaid yearly 6s. 8d., out of the lands and tenements of Phillip David ap Owen lying and situate in the parish of Llanddewe aforesaid yearly 4s. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that the aforesaid William Awbrey long before his death was seized in his demesne as of fee of and in one messuage with the lands and tenements thereto belonging lying and situate in the parish of Llanddewe aforesaid in the county of Brecon aforesaid now in the tenure possession and occupation of Howell Edward, which are held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey were held of the said Lady the Queen that now is as of her manor of Brecon in the county aforesaid in free and common socage by fealty and suit at court. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that the aforesaid William Awbrey long before his death was seized in his demesne as of fee of and in one messuage with the lands and tenements to the same belonging lying and situate in the parish of Llanthewe aforesaid, in the county aforesaid now in the tenure possession and occupation of Dieniz Phes widow which are held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey were held of the said Lady the Queen that now is as of her manor of Alexanderstone in the county of Brecon in free and common socage by fealty, suit at court and by the yearly rent of 12d. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that the aforesaid William Awbrey long before his death was seized in his demesne as of fee of and in one messuage with the lands and tenements to the same belonging lying and situate in the parish of Llanthewe now or late in the tenure possession and occupation of Philip William ap Jevan coz which are held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey, were held of John Pris, Esq., as of the Priory of Malvern in co. — by fealty and suit at court in free and common socage. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that the aforesaid William Awbrey long before his death was seized in his demesne as of fee of and in two messuages with the lands and tenements to the same belonging lying and situate in the parish of Llanthewe aforesaid in the county aforesaid now or late in the tenure possession and occupation of John ap Jevan John and Philip Watkin which are held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey were held of the said Lady the Queen that now is as of her manor of Alexanderstone in the county aforesaid in free and common socage by fealty, suit at court and the rent of 4s. 1d. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that the aforesaid William Awbrey long before his death was seized in his demesne as of fee of and in one messuage with the lands and tenements thereto belonging lying and situate in the parish of Llanthewe aforesaid in the county aforesaid now in the tenure possession and occupation of Katherine Sollers widow, which are held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey were held of the said Lady the Queen that now is as of her manor of Dynas in the county of Brecon in free and common socage by fealty and suit at court, and that the manors, mill, messuages, lands and tenements and rents aforesaid and all other the premises are worth per annum in all issues beyond reprises £10. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that the aforesaid William Awbrey long before his death was seized in his demesne as of fee of and in the manor of Battell with the appurtenances in the county of Brecon and of and in the advowson of the rectory or Church of Llanvrenach in the county aforesaid and that the same manor and advowson are held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey were held of the said Lady the Queen that now is as of her manor of East Greenwich in the county of Kent by fealty only in free and common socage and not in chief. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that the aforesaid William Awbrey long before his death was seized in his demesne as of fee of and

in the advowson of the rectory or Church of Cantreff in the county of Brecon which is held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey was held of the said Lady the Queen that now is in chief by the twentieth part of a knights fee. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that the aforesaid William Awbrey long before his death was seized in his demesne as of fee of and in two messuages with lands and tenements lying and situate in the parish of St. John the Evangelist and Devynock in the several tenures, possessions and occupations of John Awbrey, Esq., and Geoffrey DD and Andrew ap Jevan Llm which are held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey were held of the said Lady the Queen that now is as of her manor of Brecon in free and common socage by fealty and suit at court and by the yearly rent of 6s. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that the aforesaid William Awbrey long before his death was seized in his demesne as of fee of and in six messuages and the lands and tenements to the same belonging lying and situate in the parish of Llanspithed now in the tenure possession and occupation of John Thomas Dillwyn, Llm David, Henry Phe, Philip Thomas, John ap John Owen and Margaret wife of Thomas which are held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey were held of John Pris Esq., as of his Priory of Malvern in the county of — in free and common socage by fealty, suit at court and by the rent of 5s. 6d. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that the aforesaid William Awbrey long before his death was seized in his demesne as of fee of and in six messuages with the lands and tenements to the same belonging lying and situate in the parish of St. Davids in the county aforesaid now in the several tenures, possessions and occupations of Agnes wife of Hoell widow Jevan Llm, Howell William, Gwirvell wife of David, William Thomas and David William tanner, which are held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey were held of the Reverend Father in Christ Anthonius Bishop of St. Davids as of his manor of Llanthewe in the county of Brecon aforesaid by fealty, suit at court and the yearly rent of 3s. 5d. in free and common socage, to be paid every third year 8s. 5d. and every other year 4d. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that the aforesaid William Awbrey long before his death was seized in his demesne as of fee of and in four messuages with the lands and tenements to the same belonging lying and situate in the parish of Llanvillo in the county aforesaid, now in the tenure, possession and occupation of Jevan William Pris, Philip Griff, John ap Richard and John William Poell which are held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey were held of Robert Earl of Essex, John Walbis, Esq., and Richard Herbert Esq., as of their manor of Penkelly Anglia (English) by fealty, suit at court and the yearly rent of 6s. 11d., to be paid every other year 10s. 8d., and that the said manor of Battell, the messuages, lands and tenements aforesaid are worth per annum in all issues beyond reprises £5. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that the aforesaid William Awbrey, so being seized of the premises with the appurtenances by his Indenture bearing date the 9th day of November in the 36th year of the reign of the said Lady the Queen that now is, made between the aforesaid William Awbrey of the one part, Daniel Dun Doctor of Laws, Thomas Norton of Norwood in the County of Kent, Esquire, and Hugh George of London, gentleman of the other part gave, granted and enfeoffed the aforesaid manors of Aberkinrick and Battell with the appurtenances, rents, messuages, lands, tenements, advowsons and all and singular the premises before recited with their appurtenances to the aforesaid Daniel Dun, Thomas Norton and Hugh George, To have and to hold the said Manors of Aberkinrick and Battell with the appurtenances, messuages, rents, lands, tenements, advowsons, mills and other the premises with their appurtenances to the aforesaid Daniel Dun, Thomas Norton and Hugh George their heirs and assigns to the use and behoof of the aforesaid William Awbrey for the term of his life without impeachment of any waste, and after his decease the manor of Aberkinrick with the appurtenances, the mill aforesaid, the messuages, lands and rents aforesaid lying and situate in the parishes of Llanthewe, Llanvrenach, Cantreff and St. Davids (except those six messuages aforesaid with the lands and tenements to the same belonging lying the parish of St. David's aforesaid which are held of Anthonius Bishop of St. David) to the use and behoof of Willigiffordia wife of the aforesaid William Awbrey for the term of her life in the name of her dower and jointure and after the decease of the aforesaid William Awbrey and Willigiffordia aforesaid and the longer liver of them the manor of Aberkinrick aforesaid with the appurtenances the mill aforesaid and the

lands, tenements, rents and all and singular the premises last recited and limited for the dower and jointure of the aforesaid Willgiffordia and the manor of Battell with the appurtenances, the messuages, lands and tenements, advowson and all and singular the premises before recited after the decease of the aforesaid William Awbrey to the use and behoof of Edward Awbrey Esq., son and heir apparent of the same William Awbrey Doctor of Law for the term of his life without impeachment of any waste, and after his decease to the use and behoof of Willam Awbrey eldest son of the said Edward Awbrey and heirs male of the body of the aforesaid William lawfully begotten, and in default of such issue to the use and behoof of Edward Awbrey second son of the aforesaid Edward Awbrey the father and the heirs male of the body of the aforesaid Edward the son lawfully begotten, and in default of such issue, to the use and behoof of Thomas Awbrey third son of the aforesaid Edward Awbrey the father and the heirs male of the body of the aforesaid Thomas lawfully begotten, and in default of such issue to the use and behoof of John Awbrey fourth son of the aforesaid Edward Awbrey the father and the heirs male of the body of the aforesaid John lawfully begotten, and in default of such issue to the use and behoof of Hopkin Awbrey fifth son of the aforesaid Edward Awbrey the father and the heirs male of the body of the aforesaid Hopkin lawfully begotten. And in default of such issue to the use and behoof of every other son of the body of the aforesaid Edward Awbrey the father (son of the aforesaid William Awbrey Doctor of Laws) lawfully begotten from the eldest son to the next eldest son successively according to the priority and seniority of their birth and of the heirs male of the body of every such son lawfully begotten successively. And for default of such issue to the use and behoof of John Awbrey the third son of the aforesaid William Awbrey Doctor of Laws for the term of his life without impeachment of any waste, the remainder thereof to the firstborn son of the body of the aforesaid John Awbrey lawfully begotten and the heirs male of the body of such firstborn son lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue to the use and behoof of the second son of the aforesaid John Awbrey and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue to the use and behoof of the third son of the aforesaid John Awbrey lawfully begotten and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue to the use and behoof of every son of the same John Awbrey lawfully begotten from the eldest son to the next eldest son successively according to their priority and seniority of their birth and the heirs male of the body of every such son so begotten successively. And for default of such issue to the use and behoof of Thomas Awbrey second son of the said William Awbrey Doctor of Laws for the term of his life without impeachment of any waste, the remainder thereof to the firstborn son of the body of the aforesaid Thomas Awbrey lawfully begotten and the heirs male of the body of such firstborn son lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue to the use and behoof of the second son of the aforesaid Thomas Awbrey lawfully begotten and the heirs male of the body of the aforesaid second son lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue to the use and behoof of every other son of the aforesaid Thomas Awbrey lawfully begotten from the eldest to the next eldest son successively according to the priority and seniority of their birth and the heirs male of the body of every such son so begotten successively. And for default of such issue to the use and behoof of John Awbrey brother of the aforesaid William Awbrey Doctor of Laws for the term of his life without impeachment of any waste, the remainder thereof to William Awbrey eldest son of the aforesaid John Awbrey and the heirs male of the body lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue to the use and behoof of John Awbrey second son of the said John Awbrey second son of the said John Awbrey the father and the heirs male of the body lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue to the use and behoof of Thomas Awbrey third son of John Awbrey the father and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue to the use and behoof of every son of the body of the aforesaid John Awbrey the father lawfully begotten from the eldest to the next eldest son successively according to the priority and seniority of the birth and the heirs male of the body of every such son so begotten successively, and for default of such issue to the use and behoof of the heirs male of the body of Philip Awbrey another [brother] of the said William Awbrey Doctor of Laws, and for default of such issue to the use and behoof of the right heirs of the aforesaid William Awbrey Doctor of Laws for ever. By virtue whereof and by force of a certain act of Parliament [made] in the Parliament of the Lord Henry the 8th late King of England

held at Westminster in the county of Middlesex the fourth day of February in the 27th year of his reign for turning the uses of lands and tenements with the appurtenances into possession the aforesaid William Awbrey Doctor of Laws was seized of the manors of Aberkinrick and Battell with the appurtenances and of and in the mill aforesaid the messuages lands, tenements, and advowsons aforesaid and all and singular the premises in his demesne as of freehold for the term of his life, the remainder thereof to the aforesaid Willgifford for the term of her life, the remainders thereof further in the form aforesaid. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that the aforesaid William Awbrey long before his death was seized in his demesne as of fee of and in the manor of Palleg with the appurtenances lying and situate in the parish of Istradginlais in the county aforesaid and that it is held and at the time of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey was held of said Lady the Queen that now is as of her manor of Brecon in the county aforesaid by the eighth part of one knights fee. And also of and in 20 messuages, with the lands and tenements to the same belonging lying and situate in the parish of Istradvelty in the county of Brecon aforesaid now in the tenure, possession and occupation of William Phe Powell, Howell Phe Powell William David Griffith David Meredd Watkin Howell Thomas, Richard Wm. Jenkin Rice Morgan William Griffin Morgan Griff, William Morgan William, Edward David Phillip Awbrey, Thomas ap Re William, Howell Meredith, Philip Jenkin Myricke, Jenkin ap Re, Jevan ap Gwillm and Thomas ap Jevan which are held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey were held of the said Lady the Queen that now is as of her manor of Brecon in the county aforesaid in free and common socage by fealty and suit at court. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that the aforesaid William Awbrey long before his death was seized in his demesne as of fee of and in 10 messuages with the lands and tenements to the same belonging lying and situate in the several parishes of St. Davids, Cantreff, St. John the Evangelist and Llanvrenach in the several tenures, possessions and occupations of Mald wife of Richard, Griffin Powell trahern, Hugh Poell William, Morgan Awbrey, William ap Harry, John Thomas, Lloyd Roger Phe, Lewis Morgan Tucker, John Herbert and John Howell which are held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey were held of the said Lady the Queen that now is as of her manor of Brecon in the county aforesaid in free and common socage by fealty and suit at court. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that the aforesaid William Awbrey long before his death was seized in his demesne as of fee of and in two messuages with the lands and tenements to the same belonging lying and being in the parish of Llanvrenach in the several tenures possessions and occupation of Joan the wife of Re, widow, and Richard Jenkins, and that the same are held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey were held of the said Lady the Queen that now is as of her manor of Brecon in the county aforesaid by knights service. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that the aforesaid William Awbrey long before his death was seized in his demesne as of fee of and in one messuage with the lands and tenements to the same belonging lying and situate within the parish of Llanvrenach in the county aforesaid now in the tenure possession and occupation of Jevan Thomas : of which messuage and the lands and tenements thereunto belonging part is held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey was held of the said Lady the Queen that now is as of her manor of Brecon in the county aforesaid in free and common socage by fealty and suit at court : and the other part is held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey was held by John Morgan David ap John as of his manor at Penkelly Anglia (English) in the county aforesaid in free and common socage by fealty and suit at court. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that the aforesaid William Awbrey long before his death was seized in his demesne as of fee of and in one messuage and the lands and tenements to the same belonging lying and situate in the parish of Llanspithett in the county of Brecon now in the tenure possession and occupation of Henry Phe, which are held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey were held of John Pris Esq., as of the Priory of Malvern in the county of — in free and common socage by fealty suit at court and the yearly rent of 7d., and that the said manor of Palleg with the appurtenances messuages, lands and tenements and all other the premisses with the appurtenances are worth per ann. in all issues beyond reprises £5. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that the aforesaid William Awbrey long before his death was seized in his demesne as of fee of and in the manors of Harnehull

alias Harnehill and Winston alias Dridens Winston in the county of Gloucester and of and in the advowson of the rectory or Church of Harnehill with the appurtenances, and that the aforesaid manor of Harnehill alias Harnehill with the appurtenances is held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey was held of Edward Lord Stafford in free and common socage by fealty and the rent of 6s. 8d. to be paid yearly by the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel, and is worth clear per annum in all issues beyond reprises £5; and that the aforesaid manor of Winston alias Dridens Winston with the appurtenances is held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey was held of the Lady Elizabeth Danvers, as of her hundred of Brodley in the county aforesaid in free and common socage by fealty and the rent of 6s. 8d. to be paid yearly at the feast of St. Michael the Archangel, and is worth clear per annum in all issues beyond reprises £3 6s. 8d. And so being seized of the manors of Palleg, Harnehill and Winston with the appurtenances and of and in the advowson of the Church of Harnehill aforesaid and the messuages lands and tenements aforesaid the aforesaid William Awbrey by his Indenture tripartite bearing date the nineteenth day of December in the 27th year of the reign of Our Lady Elizabeth the Queen that now is [1585] made between the aforesaid William Awbrey and Willgifford his wife of the first part, Anthony Mansell and Elizabeth his wife of the second part and (Dame) Lady Elizabeth Wallwyn of the third part gave granted and enfeoffed the aforesaid manors of Palleg Harnehill and Winston with their appurtenances the advowson of the Rectory of Church of Harnehill aforesaid with the appurtenances the messuages, lands and tenements aforesaid to John Awbrey, and Philip Awbrey: To have and to hold the aforesaid manors of Palleg Harnehill alias Harnehill and Winston alias Dridens Winston with the appurtenances, the messuages lands and tenements aforesaid, the advowson of the Church of Harnehill and all other the premises to the aforesaid John Awbrey and Philip Awbrey and their heirs to the proper uses and behoofs within written, to wit, as to the manor of Palleg with the appurtenances lying and situate within the county of Brecon and the messuages, lands and tenements aforesaid lying and situate in the several parishes of Istradvelly Llanpithed Cantreff Llanvrenach St John the Evangelist and St. Davids immediately to the use and behoof of Thomas Awbrey the second son of the said William Awbrey Doctor of Laws and Mary his wife for the term of their lives and the longest liver of them. The manor of Harnehill and the manor of Winston aforesaid with the appurtenances in the county of Gloucester and the advowson of the Church of Harnehill aforesaid to the use and behoof of the aforesaid William Awbrey Doctor of Laws for the term of his life and after his decease to the use and behoof of the aforesaid Thomas Awbrey second son of the aforesaid William Awbrey Doctor of Laws and Mary his wife for the term of their lives and the longest liver of them. And after the decease of the aforesaid Thomas and Mary and the longest liver of them the manor of Palleg Harnehill and Winston with the appurtenances the messuages lands and tenements the advowson and all other the premises to remain to the use and behoof of the firstborn son of the aforesaid Thomas and Mary and the heirs male of the body of the aforesaid firstborn son lawfully begotten and for default of such issue to the use and behoof of the second son of the aforesaid Thomas Awbrey and Mary and of the heirs male of the body of such second son lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue to the use and behoof of the third son of the aforesaid Thomas and Mary and of the heirs male of the body of such third son lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue to the use and behoof of the fourth son of the aforesaid Thomas and Mary and the heirs male of the body of such fourth son lawfully begotten &c. And for default of such issue to the use and behoof of every other son of the aforesaid Thomas and Mary lawfully begotten, from the eldest to the next eldest son according to the priority and seniority of their birth successively and the heirs male of the body of such issue so lawfully begotten successively. And for default of such issue to the use and behoof of all the daughters of the aforesaid Thomas and Mary between them lawfully begotten, in common, the remainder thereof to the use and behoof of the several heirs of every of the said daughters lawfully begotten in common. And for default of such issue to the use and behoof of the aforesaid William Awbrey, Doctor of Laws and his heirs for ever. By virtue whereof and by force of a certain Act of Parliament [made] in the Parliament of the Lord Henry the 8th late King of England held a

Westminster in the county of Middlesex the 4th day of February in the 27th year of his reign [1536] for turning the uses of lands and tenements with the appurtenances into possession the aforesaid Thomas Awbrey and Mary his wife were and still are seized of the aforesaid manor of Palleg with the appurtenances and of the messuages lands and tenements aforesaid within the county of Brecon in their demesne as of freehold for the term of their lives and of the longest liver of them, the remainder thereof to the heirs male and daughters of the aforesaid Thomas and Mary in the form aforesaid, the remainder thereof to the aforesaid William Awbrey Doctor of Laws and his heirs for ever. And by virtue of the said Indenture and by force of the Statute aforesaid the said William Awbrey Doctor of Laws was seized of the manors of Harnehill and Winston with the appurtenances in the county of Gloucester and the advowson of the Church of Harnehill aforesaid in his demesne as of freehold for the term of his life, the remainder thereof to the aforesaid Thomas Awbrey and Mary his wife for the term of their lives and of the longest liver of them, the remainder thereof in form aforesaid. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that a certain Roger Vaughan Esq. and Gelio Myrick Esq. long before the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey Doctor of Laws were seized in their demesne as of fee of and in the manors of Burleton and Stradford with the appurtenances and of and in the advowson of the rectory or Church of Stradford with the appurtenances within the parish of Burghille in the county of Hereford.

And so being seized of the said manors and advowson they by Indenture bearing date the 22nd day of January in the 36th year of the reign of Our Lady Elizabeth the Queen that now is [1594] made between Gelio Merick of Gladstre in the county of Radnor Esq., Roger Vaughan of Kinerstlie in the county of Hereford Esq., Charles Lister of Windsor in the county of Berkshire Esq., and Michael Blunt of London in the county of Middlesex, Knight, of the one part and the aforesaid William Awbrey Doctor of Laws of the other part, gave granted and enfeoffed the aforesaid manors of Burleton and Stradford with the appurtenances and the advowson of the rectory or Church of Stradford to the aforesaid William Awbrey Doctor of Laws and his heirs to the use of the aforesaid William Awbrey for the term of his life without impeachment of any waste and after his decease to the use and behoof of John Awbrey third son of the aforesaid William Awbrey Doctor of Laws for the term of his life without impeachment of any waste and after the decease of the aforesaid John Awbrey then the remainder thereof to the use and behoof of the firstborn son of the aforesaid John Awbrey lawfully begotten and the heirs male of the body of the aforesaid firstborn son lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue to the use and behoof of the second son of the body of the aforesaid John Awbrey lawfully begotten, and the heirs male of such second son lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue to the use and behoof of the third son of the aforesaid John Awbrey of his body lawfully begotten and the heirs male of such third son lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue to the use and behoof of the fourth son of the body of the aforesaid John Awbrey lawfully begotten and the heirs male of the aforesaid fourth son lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue to the use and behoof of the fifth son of the body of the aforesaid John Awbrey lawfully begotten and the heirs male of the body of the aforesaid fifth son lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue to the use and behoof of every other son of the body of the aforesaid John Awbrey son of the aforesaid William Awbrey Doctor of Laws lawfully begotten from the eldest son to the next eldest son successively according to the priority and seniority of their birth and the heirs male of the body of every such son so lawfully begotten successively. And for default of such issue to the use and behoof of Edward Awbrey son and heir apparent of the aforesaid William Awbrey Doctor of Laws for the term of his life without impeachment of any waste. And after his decease then the remainder to the use and behoof of William Awbrey eldest son of the aforesaid Edward Awbrey the father and the heirs male of the body of the aforesaid William lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue to the use and behoof of Edward Awbrey second son of the said Edward Awbrey the father and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue to the use and behoof of Thomas Awbrey third son of the said Edward Awbrey the father and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue to the use and behoof of John Awbrey fourth son of the aforesaid Edward Awbrey the father and the

heirs male of his body lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue to the use and behoof of Hopkin Awbrey fifth son of the aforesaid Edward Awbrey the father and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue to the use and behoof of every other son of the body of the aforesaid Edward Awbrey son of the aforesaid William Awbrey Doctor of Laws lawfully begotten from the eldest to the next eldest son according to the priority and seniority of their birth successively and the heirs male of the body of every such son so lawfully begotten successively. And for default of such issue then the remainder to the use and behoof of the heirs male of the body of Philip Awbrey lately deceased brother of the same William Awbrey Doctor of Laws lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue to the use and behoof of the heirs male of John Awbrey another brother of the aforesaid William Awbrey Doctor of Laws lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue to the use and behoof of the right heirs of the aforesaid William Awbrey Doctor of Laws for ever. By virtue whereof and by force of the statute aforesaid the same William Awbrey Doctor of Laws was seized of and in the manors of Burleton and Stradford with the appurtenances in the county of Hereford and of and in the advowson of the Church at Stradford aforesaid in his demesne as of freehold for the term of his life, the remainder thereof to the aforesaid John Awbrey for the term of his life, the remainder thereof further to the heirs male of the aforesaid John Awbrey in the form aforesaid, the remainder thereof to the aforesaid Edward Awbrey for the term of his life and to his heirs male in the form aforesaid, the remainder thereof to the heirs male of Philip Awbrey, the remainder thereof to the heirs male of John Awbrey, with remainder thereof to the right heirs of the aforesaid William Awbrey Doctor of Laws for ever. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that the aforesaid manor of Burleton with its appurtenances is held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey was held of the said Lady the Queen that now is as of her manor Thorny (?) in the county of — by knights service —. And that it is worth per annum in all issues beyond reprises 83s. 4d. And that the manor of Stradford with the appurtenances is held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey was held of the said Lady the Queen that now is as of her manor of Brecon aforesaid in the county aforesaid by knights service, to wit, by the third part of a knights fee, and is worth per annum in all issues beyond reprises 83s. 4d. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that the aforesaid William Awbrey Doctor of Laws long before his death was seized in his demesne as of fee of and in the advowson of the Rectory or Church of Penbeare in the county of Carmarthen which is held and on the day of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey was held of the said Lady the Queen that now is as of her manor of East Greenwich in co. Kent in free and common socage by fealty only and not in chief, and that the said advowson after the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey Doctor of Laws descended to the aforesaid Edward Awbrey and his next heirs. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say that the aforesaid William Awbrey Doctor of Laws named in the said writ so being seized of the manors, lands, tenements, advowsons and all other the premises by virtue of the aforesaid enfeoffment Indenture and Statute in the form aforesaid died seized of such estate, in London, on the 25th day of June in the 37th year of the reign of the said Lady the Queen that now is [1595]; and that the aforesaid Edward Awbrey Esq., is the son and next heir of the aforesaid William Awbrey Doctor of Laws; and that the same Edward at the time of the death of the aforesaid William Awbrey his father was aged 37 years and more. And that the aforesaid Willgifford wife of the aforesaid William Awbrey Doctor of Laws is now surviving and is in full life at London. And also that the aforesaid Thomas Awbrey and John Awbrey are also surviving and are in full life in London. Moreover the jurors aforesaid say upon their oaths that the aforesaid William Awbrey Doctor of Laws did not hold nor have any other or more manors, messuages, lands, tenements, or advowsons of the said Lady the Queen in chief or otherwise, nor of any other in demesne reversion or in service on the aforesaid day on which he died.

In witness whereof to this present Inquisition as well the abovenamed Escheator as the aforesaid jurors have set to their seals. Dated at Brecon the day and year abovesaid.

1595.

By me Jenkin Lleweline Escheator of the County of Brecon.

The Tor Glas Common Case.

It was stated at the trial in August, 1898, at Swansea, that a presentment describing the boundaries of the waste or common lands of the Manor of Welsh Penkelly had been made to the Court Leet by a jury of the freehold tenants of the Manor in 1788, and that such would be found duly recorded in the Court Leet books, if they existed. It appeared however, that these books could not be produced for that year, having been either lost or destroyed by fire. Since that trial a copy of this presentment has been found at the Record Office, and also the Presentment itself in the Office of Mr. A. Maybery, Solicitor, Brecon, and the latter was used in evidence at the second trial in August, 1899, at Swansea. Having regard to its public importance and character, we append the same in full.

MANOR OF WELSH PENKELLY.

“At Court Leet and Court of Survey of our Sovereign Lord the King held in and for the said manor at a Great Oak lately stood in the village of Talybont, and near which place a dwelling house and smith's shop, lying within the manor of Wenallt, now is situate, on the 21st April in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight, before Thynne Howe Gwynne, Esq., steward, and Pennoyre Watkins, Esq., deputy steward, Howell Isaac, bailiff.

JURORS.

Thomas Williams of Tor Glas, gentleman
William Thomas of Lower Wenallt
John Powell of Gwernygafar
Thomas Jenkins of Brynmellin
Thomas Williams of Cuy
Phillip Phillips of Cwmbanw

William Jenkins of Cwmbar
William Howell of Brynyjack
Meredith Thomas of Penyrheol
Lewis Williams of Gwern Lledwr
Jenkin Thomas of Glaisk
George Thomas of Llwynon

“Adjourned to the same place to Friday morning the sixteenth day of May next to meet at eleven o'clock in the morning.

At the said adjourned Court held at the place aforesaid on Friday the sixteenth of May one thousand seven hundred and eighty eight before the same Steward and Deputy Steward, and then adjourned to Friday the thirteenth day of June one thousand seven hundred and eighty eight at the desire of these Jurors, in order that they may perambulate the boundaries of this manor, and then present the same.

At which adjournment the jurors aforesaid severally appeared before the same steward and deputy steward, and having as well upon their own view and knowledge, as by the information of Edward Vaughan, an antient man, aged upwards of eighty years, upon oath and had long been bailiff of the said manor, and also of Morgan Edward Rees, another aged man, aged of seventy years, on oath, fully satisfied themselves with respect to the commons of this manor do upon oath present as follows :—

First, we present the several persons, whose names appear on the resiant roll owe suit and service to the Court, and have made default, as opposite to their names appears, and we amerce them in the sum severally of two shillings and sixpence each.

Also, we present Mary Williams, widow, for turning water into the King's Highway leading from Pen Pedwr Heol to Pont Llydan in the Parish of Llanthetty in this manor to the great damage and annoyance thereof, and continuing the same for years past, and we amerce her for the said offence in the sum of five shillings.

Also we present the Stocks in the several parishes of Llanvigan, and Llanthetty in this manor to be wanting, and that the same ought to be set up at the expense of each respective parish, to be set up before next leet on pain of forty shillings severally.

THE BOUNDARY OF THE COMMON OF TORGLAS.

Beginneth at Blaen nant gleisydd, and followeth with the course of Nant gleisydd down to the river Taf, then turneth up with the river keeping the same close on the left hand to a place called Rudywayn, and so on by the river side to a place called Godre Dole Nant y Bwlch, which brook of Nant y Bwlch is there crossed, and so on

close by the side of the river Taf to a place called "Yr han Bont," where the Lordship of Brecon Castle belonging to John Morgan, of Tredegar, Esquire, joins with this manor on the left side, from thence leaving the river Taf it crosses straight to a small heap of stones near Nant Dole, then crossing the brook Dole, and keep up the side of that brook, having a place on the left hand, called Godre Nant y Bwlch, keeping the Torglas side of the brook called Nant y Bwlch up to a place called Pen Forddy Tor Glas by the side thereof, having such on the left hand, from thence to a heap of stones at a place on the side of the highway leading from Merthyr Tydfil towards Brecon called Pen bwlch y fan, leaving the said highway and the Brecon Lordship aforesaid on the left hand. Then it joins the Manor of Penkelly Castle, then turneth off along the very summit of the hill to a place called Pen y Fan big, then turneth across along the summit or brim to a place called Bwlch y Cwm Or Gwm and followeth the summit or brim of Tor y Glas to a place called Pen Tor y Glas, from thence straight down with the brim to a place called Pen y Dorlan Goch, and from thence straight along the brim to Nanty Gleisidd, where it begun.

THE BOUNDARY OF DRAINEN LAS CWM ORGWM

Beginneth at the ruins of an old wall, by the brook called Nant Cwm Orgwm, and leadeth down along the brook side, having it on the right hand to a place called Pwll yr Hesk, from thence down by the side of the brook lying on the right hand to a place called Pencoedcaer Pen yr Heol, thence leaves the brook, turn up with a wall that incloses Coedcae Pen yr Heol, and across Keven Cyff straight to Pencoedcae Cwmcynwyn, and along the ditch to the brook Cynwyn, where it meeteth the Brecon Lordship, then turneth up with the brook, leaving the brook on the right to the ruins of a little fold lying within about fifteen yards of the brook, there leaving Brecon Lordship crosseth to another old fold about forty yards distant, lying under a little dark bank, called Blaen Cwm Cynwyn, from thence to a fold about sixty yards further, and from thence straight over Keven Cyff to the other head of the wall above Draynen Las, and with that wall to the lower end of it near to Nant Cwm Orgwm.

THE BOUNDARY OF GWAYN GEHANEY

Beginneth at Pen Coed Cae y Crofty, and goeth along the ditch to a gate belonging to Blaennant, and then along the road leading to Llanvigan Church, to the house of Watkin Williams, then leaving the road, along the ditch up to the gate leading to Pant y Llefrydd, and along the ditch up to the lands, part of Cwrnwall tenement, and so on to the ridge Brwnare, or top of Gwaun Gehaney, to Pen Coed y Crofty, where it begun.

THE BOUNDARY OF BRYN Y GLEISION.

Beginning at Bwlch Glasgwm, from thence to a place called Pen y Castell, otherwise Bryn Pied, from thence to Rhyd Nant Du, from thence along the highest brim or summit of Gwaun Nant Du to a place on the mountain called Fald William David, from thence to a place called Croes y Gallan, and from thence to a place called Garreg Fawr, otherwise Garreg Picca, from thence straight to the gate leading to Black Cullen (probably Blaen Callan), where you leave the lordship of Wenallt on the left hand, thence keep along the ditch to a stile at Pen y Waun Evan, then leave the ditch on the left hand, and turn across to a large stone standing on its end to Pen y Rhiw Newydd, then turn straight along the top or brim to a place called Bwlch Gwyn, from thence straight to the wall of Darren Vawr to a cliff of the rock next Bwlch Glasgwm, and along the brink, keven, or summit to Bwlch Glasgwm.

(Signed)

Thomas Williams
William Thomas
John Powell
Thomas Jenkins
Philip Phillips
Philip Jenkins

William Jenkins
William Howell
Meredith Thomas
Lewis Williams
Jenkin Thomas
George Tnomas.

We give the reference at the Record Office—Chancery Proceedings, Clifton v. Gwynne. Sortation, 1818, No. 1696. The original Presentment (with many others of the same manor) is in the custody of Mr Maybery.

Manor of Welsh Penkelly.

REPORT to the Officers of His Majesty's Land Revenue of the Manor of Penkelly Wallensis (otherwise Welsh Penkelly), in the County of Brecknock, taken from a Survey made in 1816, by John Cheese, of Lyonshall, in the County of Hereford (land surveyor).

This Manor has been so long held by the present occupier, Thynne Howe Gwynne, Esq., of Buckland, in the county of Brecknock, and his predecessors and insulated and intermixed with other manors of his, that it is impossible by any information I can obtain to ascertain the boundaries on the inclosed lands. I have taken every pains in my power to do so, but without effect.

Commons.—There are four detached parcels of commons or Wastes within the said manor as described by an eye sketch on the preceding plan annexed, from the best shewing I could obtain, with their estimated quantities set down in the reference, with the names of the manors adjoining. The situation being very high and exposed, and the greater part being bogs, rocks, and full of stones, that renders it quite unfit for cultivation, and not to be used for any other purpose but depasturing small cattle and sheep in the summer months. The land being of little value, it would not answer the expenses of an Act to inclose. The tenants of the manor as set down in the following schedule of chief rents and commorthas have the right of pasturage.

Mines and Quarries.—There are no minerals, or quarries, upon either of the wastes that are now used, or from the appearance of the surface likely to be productive of any.

Fisheries.—I cannot ascertain what fisheries belong, but it is supposed a part of the manor joins the River Usk which abounds with fine trout, but being so very long held in common with Mr. Gwynne's manor that it cannot be ascertained.

Tithes.—The lands within the manor are subject to tithes.

Taxes.—There is no land or other taxes charged.

Market Towns, Roads, and Canals.—Brecknock is the nearest Market Town, about five miles, and a Canal from thence to Newport in Monmouthshire, near, also a good Turnpike-Road from Brecknock to Abergavenny within a short distance.

There are grouse upon the commons No. 1 and 2 on the plan.

A RENTAL OF THE CHIEF RENTS AND COMMORTHAS OF THE MANOR OF PENKELLY WALLENSIS, OTHERWISE WELSH PENKELLY, IN THE COUNTY OF BRECON, FOR ONE YEAR.

PARISHES.	TENEMENTS.	Amount of Chief Rents for one year.
		£ s. d.
LLANTHETTY	Bryn Jack..	0 0 4
	Comorth every 2nd year 4d, if annually ...	0 0 2
	Cwm Car	0 6 8
	Comorth every 2nd year 8s 4d, if annually...	0 1 8
	Blaen Car	0 0 11
	Comorth every 2nd year 11d, if annually ...	0 0 5½
	Wain of Werddwy	0 0 4
	Comorth every 2nd year 4d, if annually ..	0 0 2
	Tyr-y-waingoeh	0 0 5
	Comorth every 2nd year 5d, if annually ..	0 0 2½
	Ty-yn-y-Coed	0 0 8
	Comorth every 2nd year 1s 4d, if annually...	0 0 8
	Pentwyn	0 0 9
	Comorth every 2nd year 1s 6d, if annually .	0 0 9

PARISHES.	TENEMENTS.	Amount of Chief Rents for one year.		
		£	s.	d.
	Torygare	0	1	4
	Comorth every 2nd year 1s 4d, if annually...	0	0	8
	Blaen Callan	0	0	8
	Comorth every 2nd year 1s 4d, if annually...	0	0	8
	Bryn-y-Gleision	0	3	4
	Comorth every 2nd year 8s 4d, if annually...	0	1	8
LLANVIGAN	Tyr dan-yr-Allt	0	0	8
	Comorth every 2nd year 8d, if annually ...	0	0	4
	Ty-yn-dee	0	0	6
	Comorth every 2nd year 6d, if annually ...	0	0	3
LLANFRYNACH	Tor Glase	0	3	4
	Comorth every 2nd year 6s 8d, if annually...	0	3	4
	Llwyn Onn	0	2	3
	Comorth every 2nd year 8s 4d, if annually...	0	1	8
LLANTHETTY	Glascwm	0	0	8
	Comorth every 2nd year 4d, if annually ...	0	0	2
	Gellybant	0	0	8
	Comorth every 2nd year 8d, if annually ...	0	0	4
	Llwynkelin	0	0	6
	Comorth every 2nd year 6d, if annually ...	0	0	3
	Tir-y-keven	0	0	8
	Comorth every 2nd year 8d, if annually ...	0	0	4
	Bryn Melin	0	1	10
	Comorth every 2nd year 11d, if annually ...	0	0	5½
	Gwern y Gavrn	0	1	2
	Comorth every 2nd year 7d, if annually ...	0	0	3½
	Penybailly	0	0	10
	Comorth every 2nd year 10d, if annually ...	0	0	5
	Penybailey af pantyscyndraeth	0	0	2
	Comorth every 2nd year 2d, if annually ...	0	0	1
	Llwynyr Eas	0	0	8
	Comorth every 2nd year 2d, if annually ...	0	0	2
	Panty Wenallt	0	0	7
	Comorth every 2nd year 9d, if annually ...	0	0	4½
	Dany Wenalt 9d one year and 1s 6d the next ...	0	1	1½
	Penydorlan 2d one year and 4d the next ...	0	0	8
	Tyry Crigie 4½d one year and 6d the next ...	0	0	5½
	Maes Mawr, 8s 9d one year and 5s 10d the next	0	7	3½
LLANVIGAN	Caer-yr-Evan	0	2	0
	Cwmbanw	0	1	0
	Comorth every 2nd year 6d, if annually ...	0	0	3
	Blaen nant, 1s 4d one year and 8d the next ...	0	1	0
	Gwernylleder	0	0	9
LLANVILLO	Tille Crwn (Lower) 10s one year and 5s 4d the next	0	7	8
LLANFRYNACH	Tor Glas Tenement	0	1	4
	Comorth every 2nd year 8d, if annually ...	0	0	4

PARISHES.	TENEMENTS.	Amount of Chief Rents for one year.		
		£	s.	d.
LLANFRYNACH ...	Llwynkelin 4d. one year and 2d. the next ...	0	0	8
LLANVIGAN	Pentwyn 8d. one year and 4d. the next ...	0	0	6
	Lands near Coyty Bach	0	2	0
	Pant llevraith	0	2	0
	Bryny Bair	0	0	9½
	Allt	0	0	1
	Cwmbanw	0	0	6
	Penyrheol in Cwm Orgwm	0	1	5
LLANFRYNACH ..	Garngledy	0	0	8
LLANVIGAN	Allt	0	0	1
LLANFRYNACH ..	Cwm Orgwm	0	0	2
LLANTHETTY	Fynnon vawr	0	0	6
		8	17	5½
*HERIOTS AND ALIENATION FEES	Received for this last 20 years taken from the Steward's Book, £14 7s.			
	Annual amount	0	14	4
		4	11	9½
	Total Profits of the Manor			
	Amount of Commons or Wastes about 1510 acres, taking the one-twentieth part for the right of soil will be 75a. 2r. Op.			
	Annual value 1s. 6d. per acre	5	18	8
		10	5	0½

* Heriots are 10s. and Alienation fees 7s. each.

Without an Inclosure taking place the latter sum cannot be reckoned upon, and from the annual amount of the real profits of the manor arising, chief rents, comorthas, heriots, and alienation fees, with the uncertainty and trouble of collecting the many small payments, together with the expenses of holding the courts, the real value of this manor would be nominally very little, but the wastes having grouse and other game upon it makes it desirable for many gentlemen to purchase for the purpose of sporting, but no way to be calculated upon by any number of years purchase, as gentlemen will often pay more for pleasure and profit, and being more a honorary thing than a profitable one, I think calculating in that way it should be worth £400, but it all depends upon the motive of the purchase.

From the report sent me of 1651, this manor is called in the parish of Llanvigan, but from chief rents and other manorial payments, it is in Hamlets in different parishes. I cannot at all ascertain the parcel of encroachment set down in that report, but suppose from the name of the common called Gwayn y Keyvor, which is in the parish of Llanvillo, there is a place called Tille Cwm pays 7s. 8d. per year, which is upwards of four miles distance from any part of this manor, and the only place in that parish that pays anything to the manor therefore I suppose it is for this encroachment.

The amount of charges as per bill annexed, £40.

I, John Cheese, do swear that the survey or account hereto annexed was faithfully and impartially made by me, from the best information I could obtain, that the value of the property of the Crown therein contained is justly estimated therein according to the best of my skill and judgment and that all the particulars stated in the said survey or account are true to the best of my knowledge and behalf.

So help my God (Signed),

JOHN CHEESE,

Sworn before me this 6th day of July, 1816,

(Signed) JAS. CRAMMER.

SCHEDULE.

No.	Name of Common.			Estimated Quantity.			
					A.	R.	P.
1.	Brinneu Gleison	...	in Llanthetty Parish	...	400	0	0
2.	Torglase Common	..	in Llanfigan Parish	..	650	0	0
3.	Dinaslas Cwmorgwm	..	in Llanfrynach Parish	...	400	0	0
4.	Waingyhene	... ..	in Llanfrynach Parish	...	60	0	0
Total ..				...	1510	0	0

[An "eye sketch" or eye view is the expression used by Surveyors to describe a survey of land made without using measuring instruments. When made in this way by experienced Surveyors it would probably be very nearly accurate as to the acreage.]

Tales of the Belfry.

In searching through some old papers lately, I came across surprising stories of exciting scenes that have occurred in past times in a church belfry. Perhaps the most strange one is that related of St. Fagan's Church, near Cardiff. For a considerable time the bellringers had done as they liked, ringing when they pleased and as long as they pleased, and caring not a jot for what the parson and churchwardens said. On one occasion they had an exceptionally grand carousal, and enjoyed themselves vastly well. They first laid in a good stock of victuals and drink, and then closed the door against all comers. The clanging of the bells ceased only at intervals, day and night, and when provisions fell short further supplies were by arrangement with their friends hoisted up from the outside through the belfry window.

A truce or capitulation came at last, but the parson registered a vow that there should be no more bellringing, and he closed the belfry door, and fastened it with three locks. Thenceforward no bell sounded in that belfry, either for service, christening, wedding, or funeral, for many a long year. In the course of time, however, the daughter of the great man of the village was to be married, and earnest entreaties were preferred to the rector to allow the bells to be rung just that once. He was very decided and firm in his resolve, saying he had refused to allow the bells to be rung for a poor maid's wedding, and there must be the same rule for the rich: and the wedding, I believe, passed in dead silence so far as the bells of St. Fagan's took part. What was the sequel I do not know. Probably time in due course worked its cure, and the bells of St. Fagan's were rung again, though it may be presumed the lesson of the past was not altogether forgotten within the belfry walls.

This took place about 1836, I think: but a somewhat older story has to be told for our own county.

It would appear that on the night of January 19th, 1824, William Williams, the elder, William Williams the younger, and John Williams, blacksmiths, and Howell Powell, cooper, David Powell, tiler, Roger Rogers, farmer, and John Morgan, tiler, and Thomas Powell, carpenter—in all eight men—"riotously and routously" did forcibly break and enter into the parish church and steeple of Devynnock at a late hour of the night. They then and there commenced ringing the bells of the steeple without the consent of the vicar and churchwardens. It would appear that the party or some of them stayed ringing the bells all night, and David Powell, tiler, and John Williams, blacksmith, were found in the morning to be still in the church, while all the doors were bolted and locked.

The summons, issued at the instance of the churchwardens, and signed by the Rev. Thos. Watkins as magistrate, commanded the offenders to appear on Saturday, January 31st, 1824, at the Shirehall, Brecon, to be "further dealt with according to law." What happened then I do not know, or what punishment was meted out to the offenders. At that time Mary Gittens was the keeper of the county gaol. I wonder if they came into her hands. Let us hope they were let off with a caution. The thought occurs to me whether any tradition of this somewhat startling occurrence still lingers among the Devynnock people, for there surely would have been some entry made in the parish books. These eight men—the bellringers of the mother church of Devynnock—must have been no small power in their day for a vicar and his churchwardens to tackle, if they were obstinately inclined. May we hope that the storm soon passed away, and that peace reigned once more within the belfry.

Now and Then.

Glancing back over our County history for the past hundred years, it surprises one to find how great have been the changes of property in Breconshire during that period. Very few of the estates are now owned by the same families that possessed these in the 18th century. We then had eight peers of the realm holding large estates, namely, Earl Jersey, with his Ystradfellte, Park, and Llechfaen property; Lord Oxford, holding Trebarried and other property; Earl Talbot, with Newton (Llanspythid) and other extensive lands coming down from the Games family; Viscount Ashbrook, with the Abercynrig, Battle, and other property, which came from one branch of the Jeffreys family, and formed the bulk of the Estates which William Awbrey, D.C.L., had got together. Neither of these peers have now a square yard of land in the county. The other four peers—the Duke of Beaufort, the Earl of Ashburnham, Viscount Hereford, and the Marquis of Camden, still in their descendants possess their Breconshire estates. Of recent years we know two more peers have been added, both holding Breconshire properties—Lord Tredegar, a moderate sized though ancient estate, and Lord Glanusk, landed property of a portentous extent, all acquired in the present century by his grandfather, the founder with his brother Crawshay Bailey, of the once great ironworks of Nantyglo and Beaufort. But I do not think we want more peers made for our county, because there is a difficulty now in finding suitable county gentlemen to fill the office of sheriff and peers, like Members of Parliament, are excused from the performance of these onerous and costly public duties. Breconshire was never rich in Baronets and knights, but in the last century we had a Sir Rowland Gwynne of Garth, Sir Edward Hamilton of Trebinshun, a Sir David and a Sir Edward Williams of Llangoed, Sir Wm. Keppel, G.C.B., of the Tower, Skethrog, and others. Their names are now gone from among us, and their lands know them no more, and I really cannot call to mind the name of any baronet or knight we have now, and since the death of Sir Alexander Wood and the promotion of our only baronets, Sir Charles Morgan and Sir Joseph R. Bailey, to the Upper House. Many of the old Welsh families of commoners disappeared in the 18th century, and a flock of English became the purchasers of their estates. I will mention some of the purchasers: Clifton and then Pell of Tymawr, Macnamara of Llangoed, Chabert and Lefroy of Battle, Kendall and Skrine and Harcourt of Llangattock, Champion Crespigny of Llangasty Talyllyn and Scourfield of Llanvihangel Talyllyn, but these in their turn are gone now, though they once filled and for several successive generations the office of sheriff of the County. Man proposes, but God disposes, and even if like William Awbrey of Elizabeth's day, men may entail their lands to the third and fourth generation, a time surely comes when either by failure of the male line or the extravagance of heirs those lands pass away into the hands of aliens. And, alas, too often a loving but weak husband is persuaded by his wife, in the absence of children, to leave the estate to her absolutely or to her for life and then to her kith and kin, his own blood relations being ignored, and the true family name in connection with the estates become blotted out and gone for ever. And so-and-so, the old names and families in one way or another for the most part very quickly pass from off the scene.

The Great Forest of Brecknock.

The following is a copy of the important printed paper issued by the Committee of Commoners just the year previous to the passing of the Forest Inclosure Act of 1815. It is a matter of deep regret to me that it did not come into my hands at an earlier period. It would surely have carried conviction to the minds of the Committee of the House of Commons of the merits and justice of the case put before them in 1893 by the Allotment holders.

COPY.

At a meeting of the different persons entitled to rights of common upon the Great Forest of Brecknock, held at the Bull's Head Inn, in the village of Devynnock, in the county of Brecon, on Wednesday, the 17th day of August, 1814, Penry Williams, Esq., in the chair.

Mr. Thos. Bold having submitted to this meeting certain proposals, made by the solicitors for the Board of Woods, for inclosing the Great Forest.

Resolved, that this meeting consent to the first proposal.

Resolved, also, that this meeting cannot consent to the second proposal, because they think that the Crown must see the propriety of there being a surveyor as well as a commissioner, on behalf of the commoners.

Resolved, also, that this meeting consent to the third proposal upon the following conditions.

That previous to any division of the waste land of the Forest, under the provisions of the intended Act, a certain portion of the same, equal in value to the sum required, be taken out and sold—In the first place to defray the expenses of obtaining, passing, and carrying the Act into execution to its termination; and in the next place, for bearing the expense of forming, making, and fencing out the roads, bridges, etc.

Also, that an allotment may be made in lieu of tithes.

And, that those parts of the common containing limestone quarries, shall, at the discretion of the commissioners, be left open for the use of the future tenants of the Crown and the commoners as at present enjoyed.

Then that one moiety shall be allotted to His Majesty, freed and discharged from all rights of common, and other rights or claims whatsoever of the occupiers or owners of any adjacent messuages, lands, and hereditaments.

And, that the residue thereof be divided amongst the persons having rights of common or other rights on the Forest, freed and discharged from all forestal or other dues, duties, or payments whatsoever.

Resolved, that a committee, consisting of Marquis Camden, Sir Charles Morgan, Bart., Penry Williams, Esq., Edward Morgan, Esq., Thomas Harcourt Powell, Esq., Hugh Bold, Esq., the Rev. Thomas Watkins, clerk, the Rev. Thomas Powell, clerk, William Vaughan, Esq., David Lloyd, Esq., John Downes, Esq., Philip Morgan, Esq., Watkin Lloyd, Esq., — David, Esq., and Thomas Powell, Morgan Morgan, and Griffith Rees, gentlemen, be appointed to arrange with the Crown the terms of the intended bill; and that such committee be requested to attend to the progress of such bill in parliament; and that any three of them be competent to act.

Resolved also, that such committee do settle the bill of the solicitors for the business hitherto done, and order a rate upon the subscribers according to the land-tax assessment for the payment of the same.

Resolved that the thanks of this meeting be given to Richard Mansell Phillips, Esq., for his attendance at this meeting, and for a suggestion of a plan which will undoubtedly contribute to the benefits arising from an inclosure of the Forest, as well as promote the interest of the public in general.

Resolved also that the chairman be requested to sign these resolutions on behalf of

this meeting; and the solicitors do get the same printed, and send copies thereto to Marquis Camden, Sir Charles Morgan, Gilbert Jones, Esq., the solicitor for the Board of Woods, and also distribute them among the persons interested in this Forest.

PENRY WILLIAMS, Chairman.

The Chairman having left the chair,

Resolved, lastly, that the thanks of this meeting be given to him for his conduct in the chair.

G. North, Printer, Brecknock.

This account reminds me of the tragic story in verse of the Spider and the Fly. And how readily did the flies in this instance walk into the parlour! But we must, in fairness, remember that it was the time of the great Peninsular War, when wheat sold at 18s. a bushel, and an ordinary oak tree was worth £10. Col. Wood tried afterwards to rescue them from their fate, but unavailingly, because by that time the Inclosure machinery had been set in motion. Mr. Thomas Bold was the solicitor of Brecon, and the then Sir Charles Morgan's Breconshire Agent, but who Richard Mansell Phillips was I do not know—probably some Inclosure expert, who knew well the turns of the winding stairs!

“Rhesfa's.”

In searching recently among old papers I happened to meet with the records of a lawsuit relating to a mountain sheep walk near Llywel, tried at the Great Sessions of Brecon in 1814. In the brief for the defendants the following graphic and full description of a “Rhesfa,” as then used and employed by the mountain sheep-farmers of Breconshire, is given:—

“It is customary for farmers to turn out their stock to that part of the common immediately adjoining to their respective mountain fences—for a most manifest reason, viz.: That they are nearer to the residence of the owner to be looked after, and for the convenience of being brought down when wanted as the common is upon higher ground than the land of each farm. The exercise of this custom gives a name to the individual part of the common so depastured by the stock of each farmer as before mentioned. It is called his “Rhesfa” (or what in English would be termed the usual place for depasturing the stock of any particular farmer), and again to distinguish those particular parts more completely, the name of the particular farm or that of the occupier is added. For instance, “Rhesfa Pwllddu,” “Rhesfa Wern,” or “Rhesfa John Peter.” But such Rhesfa is not the exclusive property of the farm, by the name of which it is distinguished, as the other stock of the common intermix with the stock of that particular Rhesfa. At the same time it is not considered good neighbourhood for a farmer to turn his stock upon the Rhesfa of another one, and indeed in prudence it would not be advisable for him to do so, because if he turned his stock near the mountain fence of his neighbour they would in all probability break into the inclosed land of the latter, and consequently there would be trespasses and lawsuits without end.”

In Glamorganshire the term, by which a sheepwalk of a similar character is denoted, is “Arosfa,” or “Usfa,” and it may be added that the learned writers of the English text books on common lands and common laws apparently make no allusion whatever to either of these terms or that of Rhesfa, though such have been well understood and generally used in Wales for centuries.

Manors of Talachddu, Slwch, and Saint Aylett.

The annexed Inquisitio post mortem of Thomas James, the Lord of this Manor, taken in the reign of Edward VI. (1551) is specially interesting as referring to the Manor of Slough (Slwch) and Saint Aylett close to the town of Brecon. There is a sonnet by my father to the memory of fair Elined (the name is variously given as Alud, Elud, Elyned and Aluned, and here we have it as Aylett), a daughter of Brychan Brycheiniog, to which your readers may refer, and also to the account in Jones' History (New Ed., pages 28 and 215) of her life and death, and of the chapel called after her, that stood in Giraldus Cambrensis' day not far from Slwch hill in the direction of Slwch farm. In Jones' time a heap of stones near an aged yew tree, with a well at its root, marked the site of the chapel.

FIRST PART OF THE ESCHEATS OF THE FOURTH YEAR OF THE REIGN OF KING EDWARD THE SIXTH—1551.

(TRANSLATION.)

Edward the Sixth by the grace of God King of England, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, and on earth supreme Head of the Church of England and Ireland, to his Escheator in the county of Brecknock, greeting. Because Thomas James, Gentleman who held of Us in chief has closed his last day as we understand. We command you that without delay you take into Our hand all the lands and tenements whereof the said Thomas was seized in his demesne as of fee in your bailiwick on the day of his death, and cause them to be safely kept until We shall command you further in the matter, and by the oaths of honest and lawful men of the same your bailiwick, by whom the truth of the matter may be better known you shall diligently enquire what lands and tenements the aforesaid Thomas held of Us in chief as well as in demesne as in service in the same your bailiwick on the said day in which he died, and how many of others and by what service, and how much those lands and tenements are worth per annum in all issues beyond reprises, and on which day the said Thomas died, and who his next heir may be and his age. And the inquisition thereof distinctly and openly made you shall send to Us in Our Chancery without delay under your seal and the seals of those by whom it shall be made, together with this writ. Witness Ourselves at Westminster the eighth day of July in the fourth year of the King that now is.

MARTEN.

The execution of this writ appears
in a certain indenture to this writ
annexed R. Of
Rice ap Griffith Esquire Escheator of
the lord the King within written.

This is a true Copy of the Original
Record remaining in the Chapel of the
Rolls having been examined.

HEN. ROOKE, Clerk of the Rolls.

It was delivered into the Court of the 16th day of November in the year
underwritten by the hand of John Gunter.

Inquisition indented taken at Brecon in the county aforesaid on the 18th day of the month of October in the fourth year of the reign of the lord Edward, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith and in earth of the Church of England and Ireland the Supreme Head before Rice ap Griffith Esquire Escheator of the lord the King in the county aforesaid by virtue of the writ the lord the King de diem clausit extremum to the said

Escheator directed and to this Inquisition annexed after the death of Thomas James, gentleman, deceased, by the oath of Walter Havard, gentleman, Thomas ap David gentleman, John Thomas ap Gwatkin, gentleman, David Morgan Thomas, gentleman, Hoelle David Thomas, gentleman, David glin Morgan Janckin, Phelpott Watkin ap Morgan Janckin, David Madok Griffith, Rice ap Thomas ap Rees, John G. . . , John Williams ap Morgan ap glin, Janckin ap Rees Meredith, David glin Vaughan, Thomas Walter Thomas, and William ap John Ychan, Who say upon their oath that long before the death of the said Thomas Jamys named in the said writ Edward ap Glin ap Jevan ap Morgan, Edward Games, Watkin Williams, and Llewellyn ap Thomas ap Jevan ap Morgan were seized in their demesne as of fee of and in the manor of Talaughduy 12 messuages, one cottage, three hundred acres of land, sixty acres of meadow two hundred acres of pasture one hundred acres of wood and one hundred acres of furze and heath, and of seventeen shillings and seven pence of rent in Talaughduy in the county aforesaid, together with the advowson of the Church of Talaughduy aforesaid with the appurtenances, And being so thereof seized the said Edward, Edward, Watkin and Llewellyn by their charter shown to the jurors aforesaid in evidence upon the taking of this Inquisition, the date of which Charter is the eighteenth day of the month of October in the thirtieth year of the reign of the lord Henry the Eighth late King of England father of our lord the King that now is, gave granted and by their said Charter confirmed to a certain James ap Thomas ap Janckyn, gentleman, father of the aforesaid Thomas Jamys, inter alia, the aforesaid manor of Talaughduy, the messuages, lands, meadows, pastures, woods, furze, heath and rent in Talaughduy aforesaid, together with the advowson of the Church of Talaughduy aforesaid with the appurtenances : To have and to hold to the said James for the term of the life of the said James with impeachment of waste, the remainder thereof inter alia after the death of the said James to the said Thomas Jamys by the name of Thomas ap Jamys son of the said James in tail, &c. By virtue of which gift the aforesaid James was seized of and in the premises with the appurtenances in his demesne as of freehold, the fee and right simple thereof then being in the person of the said James by the form of the gift aforesaid. As so being thereof seized the said James died seized of such estate thereof at Sloughe in the said county, after whose death the said Thomas Jamys named in the said writ, being the son and heir of the said James ap Thomas, by virtue of the said gift entered into the premises, and was thereof seized in his demesne as of feetail, the fee and right simple thereof being in the person of the said Thomas as son and heir of the said James by the form of the gift aforesaid. And so being thereof seized the said Thomas Jamys by his charter shown to the jurors aforesaid in evidence upon the taking of this inquisition, the date whereof is the 10th day of the month of June in the 35th year of the reign of lord Henry the Eighth late King of England father of our lord the King that now is, gave and granted to a certain Edward Games for the occupation and exercise of the office of Steward of the Manor aforesaid, and of the Manor of Slough late of the said Thomas a certain annuity or yearly rent charge of 13s. 4d. issuing out of his Manor, land and tenements in Talaughduy aforesaid To have, raise and take to the said Edward Games for the term of his life at the feast of St. Michael the Archangel yearly, by virtue whereof the said Edward was seized of the rent aforesaid as of freehold. And afterwards the said Thomas James died seized of such estate. And that the aforesaid Manor of Talaughduy, the 12 messuages, and the said cottages, 300 acres of land, 60 acres of meadow, 200 acres of pasture, 100 acres of wood, 100 acres of furze and heath, and the said 17s. 7d. of rent, together with the advowson aforesaid with the appurtenances, parcels of the Manor aforesaid are worth per annum in all issues beyond the rent charge aforesaid and other the premises £6 15s. 0d., and are held of the lord the King as of his lordship of Brecon by the fourth part of a knights fee. And further the said jurors say that the said James ap Thomas, Edward ap glin ap Jevan ap Morgan, Edward Games, Watkin Williams and Llewellyn ap Thomas ap Jevan ap Morgan long before the death of the said Thomas Jamys named in the said writ were seized in their demesne as of fee of and in the Manor or capital messuage of Slough or Slozthe and Saint Aylett, 2 messuages, 150 acres of land, 50 acres of meadow, 80 acres of pasture, 14 acres of wood, 12 acres of furze and heath, and 8d. rent with the appurtenances in Brecon in the county aforesaid. And so thereof being seized the said James, Edward, Edward, Watkins and Llewellyn enfeofed

thereof the said Thomas Jamys and Gwenlliana his wife To have and to hold to the said Thomas and Gwenlliana and to the heirs of their bodies between them lawfully begotten for ever. By virtue of which gift the said Thomas and Gwenlliana were of the premises with the appurtenances jointly seised in their demesne as of fee-tail, And so being thereof seised the said Thomas Jamys died and the said Gwenlliana survived him, and held herself in the said Manor, messuages, land, meadow, pasture, wood and rent with the appurtenances by right of accruing. And the jurors aforesaid further say that the said Gwenlliana is still surviving and is thereof seised in her demesne as of fee-tail by the form of the gift aforesaid. And that the said Manor of Slough or Slozth and Saint Haylett, the two messuages, 150 acres of land, 50 a. of meadow, 80 acres of pasture, 14 acres of wood, 12 acres of furze and heath and the said 8d. of rent are worth per annum in all issues beyond reprises ten pounds. And that the said Manor, messuage or capital messuage aforesaid, and the lands, meadows, pastures, wood, furze, heath and rent aforesaid with the appurtenances, except fifteen acres of land with the appurtenances called Maes y pren, parcel of the same, are held of Edward Herbert Esquire as of his Manor of Skethrok in the county aforesaid by the rent of 11s. 8d, for all services. And that the said 15 acres of land with the appurtenances called Maes y bren are held of the Lord the King as of his manor of Brecon by fealty and the rent of 4s. for all purposes. Also the jurors aforesaid say that the said Thomas Jamys long before his death was seised in his demesne as of fee of and in 11 acres of land with the appurtenances called Dey glose y dwr with the appurtenances situate in Brecon in the county aforesaid. And so being thereof seised by his testament and last will shown to the jurors aforesaid in evidence upon the taking of this Inquisition willed and bequeathed to a certain Jonete his sister for her marriage 20 marks and as security for the same bequeathed to the said Jonete all his lands of fee simple: To have and to hold to the said Jonete and her heir for ever until she should be satisfied of the said 20 marks by the heirs or executors of the said testator. And that the aforesaid Thomas Jamys afterwards died thereof seised in his demesne as of fee. And that the aforesaid 11 acres of land with the appurtenances are worth by the year in all issues beyond reprises 8s. 4d., and that they are held of the lord the King in burgage by fealty only. And further the jurors aforesaid say upon their oath that as well all the issues and profits of the Manor, messuages, lands and other the premises with the appurtenances in Talaughduy aforesaid as all the issues and profits of the 11 acres aforesaid caled Dey glos y dwre with the appurtenances from the time of the death of the aforesaid Thomas Jamys remain still in the hands of Jevan ap David, Thomas ap Jevan, John Williams, Rice ap Morgan, John Duy, John ap Res, David ap Thomas ab (sic) Jevan, Howell ap glin, Roger Vaughan, Knight, Lln ap glin, Walter ap glin, David ap Rees, Philip John Vaughan, Morgan ap [sic] Jevan, Clerk, Philip ap Phe and William Havarde tenants of the Manor, lands and other the premises, still not raised or taken. And that the aforesaid Gwenlliana while she was sole and one Meredith Garres husband of the said Gwenlliana after the marriage had between them had and took all the issues and profits of the Manor of Slough or Slozth and Saynt Aylett, and of the said 2 messuages, lands other the premises parcels of the said Manor with the appurtenances as in the right of the said Gwenlliana from the time of the death of the said Thomas Jamys. And the jurors aforesaid say that the said Thomas Jamys did not hold any other or more lands or tenements of the said lord the King or of any other in the county aforesaid in demesne or reversion on the day that he died. And that the said Thomas Jamys died on the fifth day of July last past before the date of this Inquisition. And that one Jamys ap Thomas is his son and next heir. And that the said Jamys ap Thomas on the day of the taking of this Inquisition is of the age of nine years, ten months and 17 days. In witness whereof as well the aforesaid Escheator as the said jurors to this Inquisition indented alternately has set to their seals. Given the day year and place aforesaid.

[Endorsed] "Copy of a Writ to enquire post mortem Thomas James Gen. 8th July 4th Ed. 6. And the Inquisition found thereon 18th of October following."

Lordship of Builth.

[FROM AN OLD PAPER, 1704.]

Between Walter Vaughan, Esqre., and others, Plaintiffs, and Marmaduke Gwynne, Esqre., Defendant.

Advice taken for the Plaintiffs in the said cause,

1.—That the custom that a Freeholder shall pay but one ten shillings heriot for his lands on decease of his ancestors, and but one five shillings to the Lord, and but one ten pence to the Officers for their fees, being in all 15s 10d is good, and the Lord cannot by law have any more, and cannot have a several heriot, or several 5s., or several 10d. for each tenement, whereof a freeholder dies seized, for the Lord cannot multiply the sum in respect of the said tenements that the freeholder dies seized of, for the defendant's own verdict and his father's and the constant usage and practice long before and ever since the said verdict for payments of the said several sums as aforesaid, and no more, bind him.

2.—The lord cannot cause the tenants to be summoned to be jurors at the Court Baron, for his own verdict as to our custom therein is binding upon him (viz) that such juries shall be made of the standers by in the said court.

3.—That the tenants and inhabitants of the Lordship of Builth are to be toll free in consideration of the £2 18s. 4d. yearly paid to the lord, and in case there has been no such consideration paid, yet that there is no toll due for anything sold or bought out of the fairs and markets throughout the rest of the lordship, and there is not anything due for Toll through, for every subject has a right of using freely by inheritance, and that prior to any prescription, and if an unreasonable toll be granted by patent it is not good, and a prescription for an unreasonable is not good, and it is a question whether the King could grant a toll in any fair or market, it being a tax on the people without their consent in Parliament, and if any toll due at all, one penny for an entire bargain or contract is sufficiently reasonable for entry in a toll book.

4.—That the owners of the next adjacent soil to the river have a right to fish the stream each on his side of the river (excluding the lord), and the lord and his servants should be disturbed by the owners to fish opposite to their said lands, lest in time he may gain hereunto by custom, viz. (in the like case) the causes where the lord hath been sued by the owners of the soil adjoining to the river, and verdict found for the plaintiffs.

5.—The freeholders by custom may make trenches or watercourses on and from the commons to convey water to water their lands.

6.—The lord cannot hinder the freeholders to dig for stones and tyles in the wastes and mountain for repairing and building their houses or hinder them of common of pasture and turbary to build little houses on the commons according to their ancient usage and custom in every the premises.

7.—The petty constables are to be chosen by the jury and to be sworn at the Court, and the pound-keepers ought to be elected there also by the jury, the parishioners being at the charge of making and keeping the several pounds in their respective parishes and this by our custom as well as common law.

8.—It is evident not only the soil to the gutters running on either side the streets in the town of Builth along the fronts of the houses is the ground or soil of the owners of the said houses and that they have a right severally to set up stalls there on the fair and market days and to take rent for the same as the lord has to set them in the middle of the said streets between the said gutters, and the lord ought not to disturb the said owners of the houses there in setting up stalls in the places aforesaid.

9.—The lord cannot now set up a warren in any of the commons and wastes without a particular charter or grant from the King. The lord has not the power of taking from the tenants their herbage or making the common useless to them, and if the rabbits of the warren come upon any of his tenants grounds any one may kill them and the lord has no remedy. It is not probable that he will prescribe to a warren there, and if he should, yet if he cannot prove an ancient warren in that place he cannot maintain his prescription.

10.—As to the custom of “the father to the bough and the son to the plough,” (being the custom of the gavell kind in Kent), Tis good and not destroyed, so that if the father be attainted of felony and executed yet his heir shall inherit.

11.—The lord cannot fence in the common without the tenant’s consent, but notwithstanding the enclosure they may go and depasture and take their estovers as customary and justify it.

12.—That the Court Baron may be kept in any part of the Manor where the lord pleases, but the Court Leet is to be kept by the Stat. 34th 35, Hen. 8, 26. at the most ancient and usual place within the Lordship so as such place be meet and convenient for that purpose with respect to the number of suitors.

13.—As to the fishpool cross the highway on the hill an indictment or information lies for the nuisance.

14.—That the lord or his servants ought not by law to enter the estate of any freeholder to hunt or fowle there, against the will and consent of the owners thereof and contrary to the ancient usage and custom that every freeholder hath to the quiet possession and enjoyment of his estate grounded on the common law, unless it be in pursuit of a vermin of prey as fox or the like.

15.—That strangers’ or foreigners’ cattle grazing on the mountain or waste (though by consent and leave of the lord) may be distrained and impounded by any freeholder or freeholders having right of common there or action or trespass may be brought against one or more of such foreigners in the name of one or more (having right of common) for such trespass on his or their common waste.

[This advice was given to aggrieved tenants and inhabitants of the Lordship of Builth by Councillor Dawbins and others in the Year of Our Lord 1704. M. Gwynne, Esqre., being Lord of the Manor.]

Dynas, with its Members, Parcel of the March Counties.

TRANSLATION.

MINISTERS ACCOUNTS.

Accounts of all and singular the Ministers of the lord the King Henry the Eighth that now is, of his lordship there from the feast of St. Michael the Archangel in the 12th year of the reign of the said King Henry 8 [1520] up to the same feast of St. Michael then next following in the 13th year of the said lord the King, to wit, for one whole year.

Welsh Reeve of Dynas.—The account of Jevan ap Thomas ap John reeve there for the time aforesaid.

Arrearages.—The same renders account for £69 11 10 of the arrearages of the last account of the year next preceding as appears in the foot of the same. £69 11 10.

Rents of Assize.—And for £9 18 5 of the rents of assize of the free tenants by progeny. And for 68s 2d of the rents of the same beyond progeny. And for 11s 8d of the rent called Kynghalle this year. But he renders nothing of the £6 6 8 lately received from the 4 foresters there this year. And nothing from the farm of the office of the Welsh reeve there this year, because nobody wished to farm the said office. And nothing of the 40s. of the farm of the borough there this year for the cause aforesaid. And nothing of the pannage of the pigs there in the term of St. Martin this year. But he renders (answers) for 8s. received of the customary tenants of Fynnebroke this year. And for 4½d received for the farm of 4 acres of land at Brymleth, so demised this year. But nothing of the 4d received from the toll of Frondell this year because no profits were forthcoming therefrom. And nothing of the 8s received from the toll of the country there this year because no profits were forthcoming therefrom. But he renders (answers) for the 12d for the rent of 6 acres of land there so demised this year. And for 4d received from 8 acres of the land of Llewellyn Lloid so demised. And for 8d received for the farm of 14 acres of land so demised to the tenants there this year.

And for 6s 8d received for the farm of the demesne land at Keven Llannelowe so let to farm by the year to Philip ap Thomas for the term of 99 years by the record of the Exchequer. Sum £14 5 8½.

Commorthas with the Customs of Cows.—And for 11s for a certain custom called commortha from the Welsh by progeny happening every other year, charged this year, because it was not charged in the year next preceding, and ought not to be charged in the year next coming, and so only happens every other year. And for 6s 8d for a certain custom called Horsong, happening every other year, charged this year, because it was not charged in the year next preceding, and ought not to be charged in the year next coming, and so only happens every other year. And for £8 8 for the price of 24 cows coming from the Commortha, happening every other year, charged this year because it was not charged in the year next preceding, and ought not to be charged in the year next coming, and so only happens every other year. Sum £9 5 8.

Perquisites of Court.—And for 52s 8d of the perquisites of all the Courts held there this year as appears by the roll of the same shown and examined upon this account. Sum 52s 8d. Sum total of the receipts with the arrearages £95 16 5½, Out of which Stipend the same accounts for the stipend of the said accountant by reason of his office by the year—8s. Sum 8s.

Delivery of money.—And in money delivered to William Herbert of Creconwell, the deputy of Charles Somersete Earl of Worcester receiver there for the charge of the said accountant of the issues of his office this year by the recognizance of the same receiver upon this account before the auditor of the lord the King there £19 4 8. Sum, £19 4 8d. Sum of all the allowances and payments aforesaid—£19 12 8. And he owes £76 2 9½. Out of which are respited to him £68 8 9½ of decayed rents and divers lands and tenements being in the hands of the lord the King as in the preceding accounts, as well for this year as for 12 years next preceding, each year 105s. 3½d. And to the same £7 14 0 of the decayed rent of a certain custom of cows called Commortha happening every year, to wit, for the 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th, 11th, and this 13th year of the said King, each year 25s 8d, because it is charged above at £9 5 8 by the year, and now only £8 can be raised by the year, because the tenants who used to pay the said custom are dead and have gone out of the country, as the said accountant says upon his oath. Therefore it is here respited until, &c.

Mara Manor.—The account of William ap Thomas David reeve there for the said time.

Arrearages.—The same renders account for £66 4 3½ of the arrearages of the last account of the year next preceding as appears in the foot of the same. Sum £66 4 3½

Rents of Assize.—And for 5s 5½ of the rents of assize there in the term of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary the Virgin. And for 8s. 3d. of the rents there in the term of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist. And for £7 3s 6d of the rents of the Malmani and suit of the lord in the term of St. Michael. And for 8s 7½ received of the rent of the borough there at the same term. And for 8s. of the rent of John Hancockes for the lands of Griffen Thee in the said terms of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary the Virgin and St. Michael the Archangel by the year. And for 10d. received for the increase of the rent of one toft sometime of Richard ap Philip in the said terms by the year besides 2d. of ancient rent. And for 9d. of the increase of the rent of Philip ap David for one parcel of meadow there in the said terms, besides the ancient rent. And for 12d. of the increase of the rent of 2 curtilages late of Beatrice Leche so demised to Richard Billesdon and John Kinge; To hold to them and their heirs according to the custom of the manor, in the term of St. Michael, to wit, of each of them 6d. per annum, besides 12d. of ancient rent. And for 2d. of increase of the rent of Jevan Legge by the year in the said 2 terms besides 10d. of ancient rent. Sum £8 7 11.

Foreign rents.—Out of £4 8 10 of the rents of the free tenants of Btli and Mara in the term of St. Michael by the third part of the lands which Richard de la Mere lately held there for the term of his life of the grant of the lord he renders nothing here because the beadle of Dynas renders for the same in his account there. Sum, nil.

Farm of the demesne lands with the issues of the Mill.—And he does not render (answer for) anything of the 2s. of the issues of the water mill at Mora this year because it lies in ruins. But he renders (answers) for 10s. of the farm of 24 acres and 3 rods of the demesne land, there, so demised this year. And for 24s. 4d. for the farm of 123a. 1r. of the demesne lands, so demised this year, and not more, because 4 acres of the said land lie in the hands of the lord through want of farmers, and no profits were forthcoming from the same by the oath of the accountant. But he does not render account for the farm of the manor house there with the curtilage sometime of—Holleway, and which ought to be leased with an orchard there for 5s. 4d. per annum; nor for 8s. 4d. of the fruit and pasture of the orchard there this year. But he renders account for 20s. of the farm of the fishing in the lake of Mara, so demised this year. And for 6s 8d for the farm of 24 acres of the demesne lands so demised this year. And for 39s. 4d. for the farm of 24 acres of meadow there so demised this year. But he renders nothing here for the issues of 2 curtilages sometime of Richard Millewarde, because they are in ruins. Sum £4 19 4.

Issues of the manor.—But he renders (answers) nothing for the tallage of the natives in the term of St. Martin because it is within the high halmote. And he renders nothing for the pannage of the pigs of the natives called Wormetak in the same term because it appears on the roll of the said halmote. And he renders nothing this year for the hens forthcoming from the custom of the customary tenants there in the term of the nativity of Our Lord, beyond 2d. for 2 hens in the allowance of the said accountant by reason of his

office. And of the 2d. of Bondemere so lately demised to Richard Piper he renders here nothing this year for want of farmers, by the oath of the accountant. But he renders (answers for) of the 6d. of the farm of the pasture called Gilbesdiche and Crokeworth 2d so demised this year. Of the farm of the pasture of Tottford nothing this year for want of farmers. But he renders (answers for) of the 4d. of the farm of the demesne lands at Greneputtes, so demised this year. Of the eels sold there he does not render account here, because they are with the farm of the fishing above. Neither does he render (answer) for wild (wood) honey and wax found there this year, because none such happened. Sum 10d.

Perquisites of the Halmote.—Neither does he render account for any money forthcoming from the perquisites of the halmote held there this year, because they are in the account of the Welsh reeve and beadle. Sum nil.

Received there.—Sum total of the receipts with the arrearages £79 16 0½. Out of which he delivered to the said receiver by the hands of his said deputy of the issues of his Office this year by the recognizance of the said deputy receiver upon this account before the auditor of the lord the King there, £8 18 4. And he owes £71 17 8½.

Respited.—To him of the decayed rents of divers land and tenements being in the hands of the lord as in the account preceding, to wit, for the term of St. Michael in the 1st year of King Henry 8 66s 8½d as well as for this year and 11 years next preceding, each year 113s. 5d.

Military bedelry.—The account of Roger Vaughan beadle there for the said time.

Arrearages.—The same renders account for £39 12 6½ of the arrearages of the account of the year next preceding as appears in the foot. Sum £39 12 6½.

Rent of Assize.—And for 26s. 1½ of foreign rents of assize there in the term of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary the Virgin. And for 7s. 7½ received of the rents of the free tenants in the bailiwick in the same term. And for 10s. 10½ of the rent of Assize of the free tenants of Mara in the same term. And for 13s. 3½ of the rents of the same in Michaelmas term. And for 6s. 7d. of the rents of the free tenants of Dynas in the same term. And for 6d. of the rent of 1 lb. of cummin sold in the same term. And for 64s. 3½ of the rents of the free tenants in Mara in the same term, with 3d. of increase of the rent of John Foster and 1d. of the increase of the rent of Walter Shepherde. And for 3d. of the increase of the rent of John Jevan of Mara, Trahayron ap Jevan de Betti and Philip Reese in the same term, each of them 1d. And for 2d. of the new rent of Thomas Gounter for one messuage in Mara in the same term. And for 1d. of the increase of the rent of Walter Hynde for one therrell in Mara. And for 2d. for 2 pairs of gloves of rent there sold in Michaelmas term. And for 2d. for the rent of 1 hawk in the term of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist so sold this year. Sum £9 6s. 1d.

Rent of the Avowry.—And for 4d. of the rent of the avowry there as appears in a schedule shewn upon the account of divers preceding years. Sum 4d.

Tolls.—But he does not render any account for any profit arising from the tolls of the English in the lordship there with the tax this year, because no profit has arisen from the same. Sum, nil.

Perquisites of court.—Neither does he return for any moneys forthcoming from the perquisites of the court held there this year, because they are charged in the Welsh account. Sum, nil.

Sum total of the receipts with the arrearages, £48 18 11½. Afterwards charged with 8d. of the rent of one old dovecote by the supervision there demised to Roger Vaughan for the term of 21 years, this year being the first of his term. And he owes the joint sums £48 19 7½, out of which out of the regard given to the said accountant for the collection of the rent there this year, as is allowed in the preceding accounts—8s. And he delivered to the aforesaid receiver general by the hands of his said deputy of the issues of his office this year by the recognizance of the said receiver upon this account before the auditor of the lord the King there, £5 10 2d. And he owes £48 1 5½.

Respited to him for the decayed rents of divers lands and tenements being in the hands of the lord as in the preceding accounts, as well as for Michaelmas term in the first year of the King that now is—34s 5½d, as for this year and 11 years next preceding, each year 68s 11d.

Mara Betti Borough.—Account of the same William Thomas ap David reeve there during the said time.

Arrearages.—And the same renders account of £7 11 5 of the arrearages of the account of the year next preceeding as appears in the foot of the same. Sum £7 11 5.

Rents of Assize.—And for £4 2 0 received of the rent of the borough there by the year at the feast of St. Michael. Of the rent of 6 burgages there which ought to pay by the year 6s nothing is charged here because they lie vacant in the hands of the lord, by the oath of the accountant. But he renders for 12d of the rent of one curtilage late of Richard Miller lying in Mara late in the charge of the reeve of the manor of Mara at 10d by the year, and now demised to — by the name of a burgage to him and his heirs for 2d of increase by the rolls of the Court—of the year preceeding. Sum £4 3 0.

Perquisites of the Court.—But he does not render account for any profits arising from the perquisites of the hundred held there this year because they are in the account of the Welsh reeve and beadle. Sum Nil. Sum total with arrearages—£11 14 5, out of which

Default of Rents.—The same accounted in default of rents of divers burgages lying in the hands of the lord for default of tenants by the oath of the accountant as in the preceeding account, 4s. Sum 4s.

Payments of Money.—And in money paid to the said receiver by the hands of his said deputy by the recognizance of the said deputy.

Received upon this account before the auditor of the lord the king there without a bill, 65s 10d. Sum 65s 10d.

Sum of all the allowances and payments aforesaid, 69s 10d. And he owes £8 4 7.

Respited.—To him of the decayed rents of divers lands and tenements being in the hands of the lord as in the preceeding accounts, to wit, as well for Michaelmas term in the first year of the King that now is as for this year and 11 years next preceeding, each year 18s 2d.

Dynas Forest.—The account of William Herbert forester there for the said time.

Issues of the forest.—Of the money forthcoming from divers men gathering wood in the forest there with as many horses in the term of the Nativity of Our Lord, to wit, of each man with a horse 3d. he renders (answers) nothing because in the farm below. Neither does he render account of the men gathering wood without horses, in the said term, of each man 1½d. for the said cause. Nor for the men gathering wood with so many horses in the said forest in the term of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary the Virgin, to wit, of each man with a horse, for the said cause. Nor for the men gathering wood without horses in the said term, to wit, of each man 1½d for the said cause. Nor for the men gathering wood in the said forest with as many horses, in the term of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, to wit, of each man with a horse 3d, for the said cause. Nor for the men gathering wood without horses, to wit, of each man 1½d, as above. Nor for the men gathering wood with so many horses in the said forest in Michaelmas term, of each man 3d for the said cause, nor for the men gathering wood without horses in the said term to wit, for each man 1½d for the said cause. Nor for the men for having their way in the said forest in Michaelmas term, for the said cause. Nor for the brewings of the town of Tallegarth to be made this year at the feast of the Nativity of Our Lord, to wit, for each brewing for each man . . . of dead wood (?) 2d, for the said cause. Nor for 12d from divers men for having their way at the pease this year. Neither does he render anything for the toll of divers men going through the forest beyond the way this year, although there ought to be paid 8s. Neither does he render anything for the nuts to be sold there this year. Nor does he render anything for the honey and wax of the woods hold there this year. Neither does he render anything for the hens forthcoming from the customary tenants of Talgarth seeking for wood in the said forest this year, to wit, of each of them 2 hens, price per head 1d. Neither does he render anything for the attachment of strange beasts in the said forest this year, because it is let to farm below. Sum—Nothing.

Agistment of the Forest with the Pannage of the Pigs.—Nor does he render anything this year of the pannage of the pigs in the country there, to wit, of those who have pigs and do not extend to the number of 3 pigs, and if they have three pigs or more, the lord shall have the pig of each of them, because it is let to farm below, Nor does he render

anything from the tenants there for the pigs accruing to the lord as above, because none happened. Nor does he render anything of the 16s of the agistment of the goats in the said forest in the term of the Nativity of our Lord, for each goat 1d, for the cause aforesaid. Nor does he render anything for the herbage of the Holyns trodden down by the animals depasturing for the said cause. Nor does he render anything here for the goats agisted in the said forest in the term of the Nativity of John the Baptist because it is let to farm below. Nor does he render anything for the fine of strangers going across by the ways in the said forest in Michaelmas term for the cause aforesaid.—Sum—nil.

Farm.—But he renders account for 40s. of the farm of the farm there so demised to—
— this year as in the preceeding. Sum 40s.

Perquisites of court.—But he does not answer here for any moneys forthcoming from the perquisites of the Court held there this year because they are in the account of the Welsh reeve when they happen. Sum nil.

Received there.—Sum of the farm aforesaid 40s. which he delivered to the said receiver by the hands of his deputy by the recognizance of the same deputy receiver upon this account before the auditor of the lord the King there.—And they are equal.

Blli Manor.—The account of the aforesaid William Thomas, reeve there for the time aforesaid.

Arrearages.—The same renders account for £18 18 9½ and half a farthing of the arrearages of the account there for the year next preceding as appears at the foot of the same. Sum £18 18 9½ and half a farthing.

Rents of Assize.—And for 35s. 8d. received of the rents of the natives there in the term of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary the Virgin. And for 2s. 7d. received of the rents of the same in the term of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist. And for 9d. received of the rent of William Muldenham by the year in the said terms. And for 43s. 9½ of the rents of the natives in the term of St. Michael with 5s. of the increase of the rent of William Wodemonton in the said term. And for 4s. which used to be charged on the account of the old hill at the same term. Sum £5 8 9½.

Farm of the demesne lands.—And for 16s. 4d. of the farm of 49 acres of demesne lands there this year. And for 3s. 4d. received for the farm of 264 acres of the demesne lands there so demised this year. And for 27s. 2d. received for the herbage of 18 acres of meadow so demised this year and not more because they lie in the hands of the lord for default of farmers. Of the 13 works of the customary tenants, to wit, of each tenant 3½d. by the year, to be paid equally in the terms of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary the Virgin, the Nativity of St. John the Baptist and St. Michael the Archangel nothing is charged here, because there are no customary tenants there. But he answers for 6d. for the farm of the fishing of the pond there called the pool next the garden of the lord there so demised this year. And for 6d. for the herbage of one orchard next to the Castle there at the end of the flysshe pool next the garden so demised this year. And for 6d. received for the farm of one close called Curverhouse Orcharde so demised this year. Of the farm of the fulling mill on Kyrsebroke he does not answer here because the windmill is there now. Nor does he answer for the farm of the water mill there because it is altogether in ruins. Sums 48s. 4d.

Issues of the Manor.—Nor does he answer anything of the hens of the rent of the customary tenants there sold in the term of the Nativity of our Lord, because there are no customary tenants there. Nor does he answer anything of the tallage of the natives this year. Nor does he answer for the Wormetak of the natives this year, because there are no natives there. Nor does he answer anything for the sale of wood there this year, because none happened. Nor does he answer for lerewhit there this year. Nor does he answer for the rents of the tenants advowed there as is witnessed by the locum tenens of the steward of the court upon this account. Nor does he answer anything for the farm of the doveote there this year by the oath of the accountant. Sum nil.

Perquisites of the court.—Nor does he answer for any moneys forthcoming from the perquisites of the court held there this year because they are charged in the Welsh account and bedelry if there were any. Sum nil.

Received there.—Sum total of the receipts with the arrearages £26 15 10½ half a farthing, out of which he delivered to William Herbert deputy receiver there of the issues of

his office this year by the recognizance of the said deputy receiver upon this account before the auditor of the lord the King there £6 4 2. And he owes £20 11 8 half a farthing.

Respited.—To him for the decay of the rents of divers lands and tenements being in the hand of the lord as in the accounts preceding, to wit, as well for Michaelmas term in the first year of the King aforesaid 16s. 5½. half a farthing as for this year and 11 years next preceding, each year 82s 11½d.

Dynas manor.—The account of William Herbert farmer there for the said time.

Rents and farms.—The same renders account for 30s. of the farm there with the farm of the park so demised to the said accountant this year. For the honey and wax of the woods or the "lopp or crop; of the ash trees sold there this year he does not answer because they are by themselves above with the farm aforesaid. Sum 30s.

Receipts there.—Sum of the farm 30s. which he delivered to the receiver by his recognizance upon this account before the auditor of the lord the King there.—And they are equal.

[Endorsed] Dynas with its members, parcel of the county of the Marches. The accounts of all and singular the ministers of the lord the King Henry the 8th there ending (?) at the feast of St. Michael the Archangel in the 13th year of the said King.

Absolution of Catherine Powell, 1735.

Defamation is the offence of speaking scandalous words of another, and was in the last century punishable by the ecclesiastical laws. For instance, if a person was called a Heretic, Schismatic, or said to have broken the Seventh Commandment, the Ecclesiastical judges would deal with the offender. No damages were given, and the suit was only for punishment of the fault by way of penance. If the offence was proved, excommunication followed, and if the excommunicated person obstinately refused to seek absolution, a writ then issued for imprisoning him or her without bail or mainprize (friendly custody) until they conform.

In the following case Widow Catherine Powell did not at first appear to answer the charge, and a decree of excommunication was made against her in the Archdeacon's Court at Brecon. Then better counsels prevailed, and absolution from the decree was duly sought for and obtained. The bond entered into by her with a substantial surety for £100 is given below, and as the matter occurred one hundred and sixty years ago, there cannot be, we trust, the slightest harm in giving the names of all the parties as they appear in the old paper.

LLANVIHANGELL NANT BRAN—15TH NOVEMBER 1735.

A Bond for granting an Absolution to Catherine Powell.

Know all Men by these presents that We Catherine Powell late of the Parish of Llanvihangell nant Bran in the County of Brecon Widow and Walter Williams of Penpont in the County aforesaid Gent are held and firmly bound unto the Right Reverend ffather in God Nicolas by Divine permission Lord Bishop of St. Davids in the sum of One Hundred Pounds of good and lawfull money of Great Britain to be paid to the said Lord Bishop or to his Certain Attorney his Executors Administrators or Assigns To which payments well and truly to be made we oblige our selves and each of Us by himself severally for the whole our and every of our heirs Executors and Administrators firmly by these presents Sealed with our Seals Dated the fifteenth day of November in the Ninth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Second by the grace of God of Great Britain France and Ireland King Defender of the faith and so forth and in the Year of our Lord God One Thousand Seven Hundred and thirty five.

The Condition of the Obligation is Such that whereas the above bounden Catherine Powell was by a decree of the Ecclesiastical Court held for the Archdeacon of Brecon Excommunicated for not appearing to answer Sarah the wife of Thomas Price of the Parish of Llanll nant Bran in the County of Brecon in a Cause of Defamation from which Decree of Excommunication She is now Absolved Now Therefore if the said Catherine Powell shall and will from time to time and at all times hereinafter observe stand to perform and obey all the Decrees and mandates of the said Court in all their Lawfull and Just Commands and shall also Save harmless and keep indemnified the above named Lord Bishop his Vicar general and all other his Officers Concerning the premises and Shall also pay or Cause to be paid all Such Costs of Suit or Sume or Sumes of Money as the Said Lord Bishop his Vicar generall or his Surrogates Shall tax in the Cause against the said Catherine Powell then this obligation to be void and of none effect or else the same to be remain in full force and Virtue.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of

EDWARD DAVIES

The marks of

CATHERINE POWELL

WALTER WILLIAMS

The Black Cattle Drovers.

The passage of large droves of black cattle, from Carmarthenshire, Pembrokeshire, and Cardiganshire, through Breconshire to the markets of England, was in pre-railway days a common event; and now that it has ceased, the cattle being taken more quickly and cheaply by rail instead, it will be interesting to place on record the facts that I remember, or that have been told me by persons now living, concerning the practice of the olden time.

During the holding of the summer or early autumn fairs, the chief capitalist drovers purchased and collected together their droves in Cardiganshire and North Carmarthenshire; and similarly other drovers, in Pembrokeshire and west and south Carmarthenshire, arranged for the assembling of the cattle they had purchased at some given point. They were all black oxen, and some of the Castle Martin breed were large, having long white branching horns. We should call them two-year-old steers, and they were roomy and well-developed animals.

The Cardiganshire droves passed through Lampeter, and thence along the main Llandovery turnpike road to Pentre Davies tollgate, near Pumpsaint in Carmarthenshire. They paid a toll there, but it was the last toll paid until they reached Rhydspence on the borders of Radnorshire and Herefordshire, where they entered England, the intervening distance of 40 miles being partly along by-roads, but mainly over the open hill.

These droves, having left the main Llandovery turnpike road at Pumpsaint, turned down the parish highway leading by Ogofau (Angl. Caves), Caio Village, Albert Mount, Pencraig, Penlevy, Cwmfran fawr, and Cilwrm Village to the river Towy, at a point four miles above Llandovery. This river they forded, and still keeping the by-roads, crossed the Forest bank by Pendryn llwyn to Talgarth Inn, in the Brân Valley. Here they took the Llwydlo road for some distance, until branching off to the right by Aberebwl on the borders of Breconshire and by Spite Inn (Lat. hospitium), they reached Llandulas Church. Here we must let them rest for a moment, before we climb together the steep of Epynt, and I hope some of our readers are following on the map the course we are taking.

The droves that were collected in Pembrokeshire, and south and west Carmarthenshire, made for Llandovery, as the common starting point, and are awaiting there the signal that all is ready for a start. On leaving that town and its rich accommodation meadow land on the Brân and Gwydderig sides, having been of course first duly shod, the droves passed through the Velindre turnpike gate, paying there their last Welsh toll, and along the main Brecon road for $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles to Pentrebach. Here they left the main road, and crossing the Gwydderig stream, followed the highway leading over Cefn Erthan to Llandilo fân, as far as Clwydd y Watch. Here they turned a little to the left, and passing over Trelaeth hill soon reached Llandulas Church, joining there the cattle track, as we have seen, from Cardiganshire.

And now we must climb together the steep escarped side of Epynt, and a fine sight that must have been along the sloping roadway (rhiw) up the mountain side, the deep black gorge of Cwmydyffnant beneath, and the purple heath clad banks on either side. I have ridden along this sloping mountain-side roadway, but have never seen the droves of big majestic black oxen passing up in single file in an almost endless procession. It must have been a grand sight, the massive jet black beasts leisurely labouring upwards, with here and there in view a single horseman, or group of horsemen in charge, and then would come the thought that none of those thousands of cattle would ever return!

But they have passed Cefn-iolau and Crossynn, have ascended the sloping mountain track, and are breathing easily the fresh air of the plateau of the Epynt range. With heads pointing for the east, and for England, they pass along the broad deeply indented go-where-you-please track on the level mountain top by Fynnon David Bevan and Tircrugyn, and

thence across the Brecon and Maescefnnyffordd road by Pencenffordd, where the Drovers' Arms welcomed the thirsty drovers.

Thence refreshed, and perhaps having rested on the open hill for the night, the drovers crossed the Builth and Brecon road at Cwm Owen (possibly along the old causeway), and following the descending slope of hill to Twyn y big, took the Blaen hir Waun track down the mountain side along the Twympath, leaving Gwenddwr on the right, and made for the passage of the Wye at Erwood. There, if the river was fairly low, the huge beasts forded the stream, and an exciting scene that must have been. If the river was in flood, little Twm with his boat, Cavan-Twm-bach, took care of them, and ferried the cattle across. Like Charon at the river Styx, he patiently waited for his passengers to come; and often Twm, like the salmon angler now does, uttered a silent prayer that some good strong "freshes" might be sent by a beneficent Providence so as to make the stream unfordable. That ferrying over must have been a long and tedious work, and full of excitement, and sometimes very dangerous, as now and again both men and cattle were washed away.

Once safely across the Wye, they made their way over the open hill of Llandilo Allt, or Garth, and passing Sunny Bank and Penrhue crossed a hill called Penpreselly, and so on to Penbryn coch and Painscastle. Here some of the droves rested, and had their shoes looked to, after which their road lay over Clyro hill to Rhydspence on the left bank of the Wye near the border of Herefordshire. Here also shoes were looked to, and it was the special business of the blacksmith there to attend to the shoeing before the cattle travelled the hard roads of Herefordshire. The first toll paid in England was at Willersley turnpike.

From thence onwards the droves were taken to the English markets and fairs, Leicester and Northampton, and even to Kent and Essex, making about 20 miles a day, the by-roads being always chosen, where practicable, to avoid the payment of tolls. Probably the cattle went to the same markets as they do to-day, because the chief grazing districts of England remained unchanged. I do not think they went as far east as Norfolk, for recently when I saw on the broad salt marshes of the Yare and Bure rivers thousands of young cattle grazing there, which had been brought from Ireland, Scotland, and Canada, I failed to find a single black beast among them. As it is now, probably it was then, the nearer markets to Wales were found the best.

Many droves, however, reached London, and were sold in the old Smithfield market, near St. Bartholomew's hospital. One public house there, the Lock and Key—still standing, for public houses live long—was specially patronised by the Welsh drovers, and was in fact their house of call, and here I may be permitted to give an amusing story. Some of the cattle dealers used to walk out in the town in the evening, and stroll here and there, little thinking they might get lost, but many of them were out all night, trying but failing to find the Lock and Key. On one occasion two men from the neighbourhood of Llansawel strayed out from the Lock and Key, and, in their efforts to return, got hopelessly lost. At last it occurred to one to ask their way to Bailey Vicar (the largest farm in the parish of Llansawel), when it is said they met a Welshman, who guided them back to the Lock and Key! It is a curious coincidence, that a public house with the same sign, is to be found at Pencarreg, near Lampeter.

In troublous times, when gold and silver had to be carried largely on the person, and specially by drovers after completing their sales, the sign of the Lock and Key was by no means a bad one for a house of call for drovers. Presumably the doors were securely barred at night, even if the landlord did not possess a modern safe, and the sleep of the drovers was calm and peaceful. Since then of course the live cattle trade has been removed from old Smithfield to the market in Copenhagen fields at Islington, but you can see the same public house to-day on the east side of the Square; and when there, do not forget the wondrous old church of St. Bartholomew hard by.

Readers have heard of the Black Ox figuring on the bank notes of David Jones & Co., bankers, of Llandovery. I believe David Jones, of Blaenôs, the founder of the firm, and of the Pantglas family, was one of the chief cattle drovers. How the drovers were financed I do not know, but probably it was made easy when the Black Ox Bank with its various branches was established in Carmarthenshire and Cardiganshire. Most of the

dealers lived in the parishes of Caio and Llancrwys, with the exception of one named Griffiths, of Cilgerran, on Teivy, who is said to have done the biggest trade of them all. Then there were the Evans's of Llawdre; Davies, the Farmers; Tom Phillips, of Penybanc; Jones, of the Tanner's Hall, Llandovery; and a number of smaller dealers. They purchased their cattle here and there throughout the three counties of Carmarthen, Pembroke, and Cardigan.

It was the custom to divide each drove into lots, each lot being in charge of a drover. The drover of the leading lot, generally about six of the finest oxen, was called the "Guide,"—a man who became usually, as a rule, in turn a cattle dealer. Dan Davies was Tom Phillips' "guide" before he became a cattle dealer; but Dan, I am told, was only a guide during the period when cattle were driven. His success in the business happened after the advance of railways. Old Davies, of Cefn tybych, from the Cothly Valley, was on the road from early childhood; if alive, he would have been 100 now. He used to tell many good tales of the road, but my informant has forgotten them.

The shoeing of the cattle was a very important affair, and preparations were made long before-hand. On wet days and in winter, when jobs came slow to hand, the smiths employed their time in making "Cuse," pronounced Kuce, that is, thin iron ready for making the shoes of. They also prepared the shoes themselves, which consisted of two bits of this thin iron for each foot. The nails were called "hoel ion cuse." Shoeing a drove was a great event. The cattle were caught, cast on the ground, their legs tied, and a piece of wood, shaped like a Y, was placed under the crossed legs to keep the feet firm, being heel upwards. The shoes were tacked on very quickly, and it was a busy, lively scene, and *cwrw da* flowed, it is said, freely.

Occasionally, I have seen—and why they came that way except from stress of weather and high floods in the Towy or Wye I do not know—large droves coming along the road from Llandovery to Brecon, and passing through Brecon on to Hay. It was not often, but I distinctly remember meeting the droves near Llanspythid, and thought—I was quite young then—as perhaps I should now, what a wondrous noble sight to see this black crowd marching forward in ordered ranks. And it was a novel sight, too, because our Breconshire cattle are so different, and, like the old red sandstone soil, of red colour.

Ichabod! The droves are gone, and with the droves the employment of the shoeing smiths, the profit of tack to the owners of the rich meadow land near Llandovery, and the profit of the Drovers' Arms. Little Tom sat on his ferry boat at the Cavan waiting for his passengers and his obolus, but he waits now in vain. Painscastle suffered a loss, too, and the smith at Rhydspence, and the owners of the rich meadows at Whitecross, Hereford, where I have seen many a brave drove resting on their way eastward. And so on far down the road into England, many a pocket was the lighter when the droves ceased to pass that way.

I am told that occasionally at the present day, large flocks of sheep are taken to England along the old track, and that on Clyro hill—though the hill has been enclosed—a broad open roadway had been left unenclosed, and which is known as the cattle track. This is, as it should be, though I doubt if ever large droves of cattle will pass that way again. And on the Epynt range, the old track is quite open and ready for use at the present moment.

Of course the main object probably of taking the cattle over the hills and by the bye-roads, was to avoid the toll-gates, which were at one time thickly studded over Breconshire, and, down to their total removal in 1889, as close as seven miles to each other on the same road. What happened previously to 1767, when the first toll gate was established in Breconshire, it is impossible to say, and what route the cattle droves then took. I am inclined to think that the Cardiganshire droves continued along the straight and dry Roman road over Llwydlo to Builth, instead of taking the hill at Llandulas, and that almost certainly some of the Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire droves ascended the Trecastle mountain at the Black Cock, and so over that mountain to Llywel. Thence they would make for the Wye over Llandilo Fân hills and Epynt, much the same route as described, or possibly they took the main county roads to Brecon and Hay, and so on

to Hereford. The signs of great traffic over the Trecastle mountain are so apparent as to warrant this suggestion ; and it is quite certain that the low-lying bottom road in the Cwmdwr Valley had not then been formed.

I have made a rough calculation of the number of the cattle passing, along the routes described, in a year. It works out at 30,000 total, of which I credit 13,000 to Carmarthenshire, 10,000 to Pembrokeshire, and 7,000 to Cardiganshire. In conclusion I have to thank several valued correspondents in the Cothy, Towy, and Wye Valleys for the information they have kindly given me on this interesting subject.

Grant of Brecon Lordship to Sir Francis Bacon, in Trust.

PATENT ROLL. 14 JAMES I. P.20 M.1. (1617).

Indenture made 10 January 14 James I. [1617] between the King of the one part and Sir Francis Bacon, Sir John Baccombe, Knight, and others of the other part.

The King grants to the said Sir Francis Bacon and others all those lordships and lands of North Wales, South Wales, and West Wales, in any way belonging to the Principality of Wales : to the only use of Prince Charles, Prince of Wales, &c.

First, of the Lordships, castles, &c., in the county of Carnarvon in North Wales.

And all and every those his Majesty's lordships Mannors Townships lands and tenements of Buelth or soe called or there lying or renewing and Comortha there with their rights members and appurtenances in the Kings Majesties Countie of Brecon, parcell of the lands exchanged by William late Earl of Pembroke. And his Majestys Rents and farms of the lordships manors Townships lands and tenements of Buelth or so called or there lying or coming with the rents of tenants there paid for Comortha in the same county of Brecon (excepting a mill there and lands and other things to the same mill belonging and the rents and farms of the same mill and lands excepted) And all and every those his Majesty's lordships, manors, townships lands and tenements of Brecon or so called or there lying or coming with their rights, members and appurtenances in the said county of Brecon late parcel of the lands and possessions of Edward late Duke of Buckingham. And his Majestys rents and farms of the lordships, manors, townships lands and tenements of Brecon or so called or there lying or coming with the appurtenances in the same county of Brecon. And all and every those his Majesty's manors townships, lands tenements comortha and hereditaments in the charge of the forraigne Bailiffe of the possessions of the said late Duke of Buckingham or his Majestys possessions of Brecon or so called or there lying or renewing with the appurtenances in the aforesaid county of Brecon. And his Majesty's rents and farms, lands and tenements in the charge of the foreign bailiff of the possessions of the aforesaid Duke of Buckingham in the said county of Brecon, with £28. 8. 0. yearly paid for Comortha there, (excepting a mill there with lands and other things to the said mill belonging, and the rents and farms of the same mill and lands excepted). And all and every those his Majesty's lordships, manors, townships lands and tenements of Welshe Haya or so called or there lying or coming With Comortha there with their rights members and appurtenances in the said county of Brecon And his Majesty's rents and farms of the lordships, manors townships lands and

tenements of Welsh Haya or so called or there lying or accruing in Welsh Haya with the rents and sums of money for Comortha there with the appurtenances in the said county of Brecon. And all and every those his Majesty's lordships manors, townships lands and tenements of Welshe Penkelly or so called or there lying or being with Comortha there with their rights, members, and appurtenances in the said county of Brecon, and his Majesty's rents and farms of the lordships manors townships lands and tenements of Welsh Penkelley or so called or there lying or accruing With the appurtenances with the rents for Comortha there in the same county of Brecon. And all and every those his Majesty's lordships manors townships lands and tenements of Alexanderston or so called or there lying or renewing with their rights members and appurtenances in the said county of Brecon. And his Majesty's rents and farms of the lordships manors, townships lands and tenements of Alexanderston or soe called or there lying or accruing with the appurtenances in the same county of Brecon. And all and every those his Majestys forests soils grounds lands tenements and hereditaments called or known by the name of Brecon or Forest of Brecon or of the little Forest of Brecon with the appurtenances in the said county of Brecon, late parcel of the possessions of Thomas late Lord Seymour. And his Majesty's rents and farmes forest herbage lands and tenements of Brecon or of little Brecon or so called or there lying or coming with the appurtenances in the same county of Brecon. And all and every those his Majesty's lands tenements rents farms and hereditaments in Buelth and Llanavan with the appurtenances or called or known by the name or names of Buelth and Llanavan or either of these names or there lying or coming with the appurtenances in the said county of Brecon. And all those his Majestys rents and farms and rents of Assize and hereditaments in the townships and places following in the said county of Brecon, that is to say, in Haya seven shillings and fivepence, in Buelth forty five shillings, and eleven pence, in Dyvynock eight pence.

[Then follows Radnor.]

To hold all the said premises to the said Sir Francis Bacon and others for the full term of 99 years fully to be completed and ended, to the only use of the said Prince Charles, who shall take all the rents and profits thereof.

Given the day and year abovenamed.

[This grant is of great length, covering 30 membranes.]

Sale of Brecon Lordship to Collins and Fenn.

PATENT ROLL 7 CHAS. 1. PART 16 (1692).

LICENCE TO WILLIAM COLLINS AND EDWARD FENN, GENTLEMEN
AND THEIR HEIRS.

The King to all, &c., Whereas We by Our contract indented, sealed with the Great Seal of England, dated 7 May, in the 6th year of our reign [1680] made between Us and several of the Lords of Privy Council of the one part and Thomas Heydon, Knight, William Russell, Knight, Ralph Freeman, Esq., of the City of London, and Charles Havard of London, Esq., of the other part, in consideration of £20,000, paid by the said Ralph Freeman into Our Exchequer at Westminster to Our use, to be expended about Our Maritime business for our special service—have agreed to grant and confirm to the

said Ralph Freeman and his heirs in fee farm for ever, Our honors, castles, lordships, manors, lands, tenements, and hereditaments whatsoever, by the said Ralph Freeman to be chosen, of the clear yearly value of £1000 according to such rates and reprises, and with such reservations, clauses and agreements as in the said contract are contained and declared.

And whereas We by Our Letters patent dated 28 May last, in consideration of the sum of £5,555. 9. 2, parcel of the said sum of £20,000 to be paid by the said Ralph Freeman, and at his humble petition We have declared that all such honours, castles, lordships, &c., to be chosen by the said Ralph, not exceeding the clear yearly value of £277. 15. 5½, parcel of the said £1000, shall be granted to the said Ralph Freeman and his heirs in fee farm for ever. And that the said Ralph may grant the residue of the said £1000 to the said William Russell, Knight.

And by the same Our Letters Patent we will that all the honors, lordships, castles, &c., to be chosen by the said William Russell may be granted to the said William and his heirs in fee farm :

And whereas the said Ralph Freeman by indenture dated 22nd September last past granted the residue of the said sum of £1000, being £722. 4. 6½ to the said William Russell :

Know ye that We in part fulfilment of the premises and for the sum of £13,545. 15. 10 to us paid by the said William Russell, and at his humble petition have granted to William Collins and Edward Fenn of London, gentlemen, and to their heirs and assigns for ever all that Our tenement within Our own town of Carmarthen.

Also all that Our lordship and manor of Brecon alias Brecknock, with all and singular their rights, members and appurtenances whatsoever in Our county of Brecon, and all and singular the rents of assize, lands, tenements, burgages, wheat and oats, demesne lands and woods, services, customs, works of tenants and hereditaments whatsoever in Brecon, Walton, Benny, Llanvayes and Bifield and elsewhere, parcels or reputed to be parcels of the said lordship and manor of Brecon, or to the same in any way belonging or appertaining ; and all that foreign bailiwick (forinséc Ballivat) to the aforesaid lordship and manor of Brecon ; and all those rents of assize escheated lands and burgages and other parcels in the tenure of divers persons, lands and tenements forfeited, heriots, perquisites and profits of Courts there, fishing in the water of Lane and Mere and all small farms, lands tenements and hereditaments whatsoever, parcels or reputed to be parcels of the said foreign bailiwick and to the same belonging : Except nevertheless and always reserved all that forest called the great forest of Brecon and the soil and agistment of the same ; and also except and always reserved the town of Brecon and £20 per ann. therefrom, the mill called Rederewe Mill and the rent of 20s therefrom, the manor of Mara and Mota and the fee farm therefrom of £3 per ann., the manor of Welsh Penkelley and the rent therefrom of £22. 16. 8 per ann., the manor of Welsh Haya and the yearly rent of £7. 1. 6½ therefrom, the manor of Alexanderston and the yearly rent of 100s therefrom, and divers mills in Divynock, Crassenny Llewellyn, Astradvelty and Pulchaughe with the fishings of Nethe and Towy parcels or reputed parcels of the said lordship and manor of Brecon, of the ancient yearly rent of £43. 6. 8 ; also except and out of this present grant altogether reserved, all those demesne lands, late parcel of the said manor and bailiwick of Brecon lately granted in fee farm to the use of the Mayor, Commonalty and citizens of the City of London and the rent therefrom attaining to £20. 0. 10 per ann. : Which said lordship and manor of Brecon with the foreign bailiwick by the particulars thereof are mentioned to be parcel of the lands late of Edward Duke of Buckingham and to be of the yearly rent or value of £83. 0. 11½.

Also all those Our lands and tenements in Co. Merioneth.

To have and to hold to the said William Collins and Edward Fenn and their heirs in fee farm for ever, as fully, freely, and wholly as We or any of Our ancestors held the same, except all knights fees, wards and marriages, advowsons, free gifts and right of patronage of rectories, Churches, vicarages, Chapels, &c. &c. and mines of gold and silver, they paying yearly to Us and Our heirs for the said lordship and manor of Brecon with the foreign bailiwick of the same £44. 0. 1½

And the said William Collins and Edward Feun shall pay to Us and Our heirs all their money for the materials of the Castle of Brecknock within the lordship of Brecon in Our said county of Brecon.

Witness Ourselves at Westminster the 8th day of December [1631]
by writ of Privy Seal.

[This grant covers 34 membranes].

Great Forest of Brecknock.

GRANT OF THE GREAT FOREST OF BRECKNOCK AGISTMENT
TO MR. RICE JONES [1661.]

[TRANSLATION.]

Charles the Second by the grace of God King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all to whom these present Letters shall come. Know ye that We as well in consideration of the yearly rent below by these presents reserved as for certain other good causes and considerations Us at this present time moving by the advice of Our beloved and faithful counsellor Anthony Lord Ashley Chancellor and Sub-Treasurer of Our Court of Exchequer, and also of Our beloved and faithful Counsellors Thomas Clifford, Knight, Treasurer of Our Household and John Duncombe, Commissioner of Our Treasury have given, granted and to farm demised, and by these presents for us our heirs and successors do give grant and to farm demise to Our beloved Rice Jones, gentleman, all those reliefs yearly from time to time happening, growing and forthcoming in certain villis, wells, gabells and places in the counties of Carnarvon, Anglesey and Merioneth or in any of them with all their appurtenances: which said premises are parcel of the possessions of the Principality of North Wales and were leased to Richard Protherch, Esquire, and Godfrey Protherch, gentlemen, by indenture dated the 1st day of July A.D. 1637, for the term of 31 years, beginning from the feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary the Virgin next before the date of the said indenture under the yearly rent of £6. 13. 4.

And also the agistment of the Great Forest of Brecon in the county of Brecon, parcel of the lordship of Brecon in the same county late parcel of the lands and possessions of Edward, late Duke of Buckingham attainted of high treason, and all and singular the profits commodities, emoluments, advantages and hereditaments whatsoever to the said agistment belonging and with the said Forest before demised and so demised to William Jones, gentleman, his executors and assigns by Letters Patent of the late Queen Elizabeth dated at Westminster the 17th day of March in the 23rd year of her reign for a term of 21 years from the feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary the Virgin then next following under the yearly rent of £20. 6. 8.

And also all those escheated lands within the granges of Gwyderigg alias Goithgarreg in the county of Carmarthen called Tyr Evan Blaen Tyrydall Tyr Baiddaw'r Coed and Kainer bwnysklawd dd ardwr, parcels of the possessions late of the manor of Tally in the county of Carmarthen now or late in the tenure or occupation of William Gwynne, Esquire, or his under tenants under the yearly rent of 10s.

Except nevertheless and out of these Our presents and grant altogether reserved all reliefs due and to be due and payable for and in respect of all feoffees of rents reserved under certain Letters Patent for all lands, tenements and hereditaments within the aforesaid vills, wells, gabells, and places in the said county of Carnarvon, Anglesey, and Merioneth, and also except all wild animals and fallow deer (*feris et cervis**) being within the said Forest of Brecon, from time to time yearly accruing, and the herbage and feeding for the said wild animals and fallow deer, as at any time was used and accustomed, also except all the great trees, woods, underwoods, mines and quarries on the premises.

To have and to hold all and singular the premises above by these presents demised or mentioned to be demised with all their appurtenances (except as before excepted) to the said Rice Jones his executors and assigns from the feast of St. Michael the Archangel next following the date of these Our Letters Patent up to the end of the term and for the term of 31 years then next following and fully to be completed, paying therefore yearly to Us Our heirs and successors these several yearly rents following, to wit, of and for the said reliefs happening and forthcoming in the said vills, wells, gabells and places in the said counties of Carnarvon, Anglesey and Merioneth £6. 13. 4. And also for the said agistment of the said Forest of Brecon, £20. 6. 8. Also for the said escheated lands in the said granges of Gwyderigg 10s of lawful money of England to be paid at the feasts of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary the Virgin and St. Michael the Archangel into the Receipt of the Exchequer of Us Our heirs and successors at Westminster or into the hands of the bailiffs or receivers of the premises for the time being, by equal portions during the said term.

And the said Rice Jones for himself his heirs, executors and assigns agrees and grants with and to Us Our heirs and successors by these presents that he the said Rice Jones his executors and assigns will well and faithfully demand, take and collect all and singular the reliefs aforesaid within the said vills, wells, gabells and places aforesaid in the several counties aforesaid from time to time growing and forthcoming, except as before excepted, and will present the same and give notice thereof at the next court to be held in or for the said vills, wells, gabells and places where such shall happen and come and will enter them and cause them to be entered in the Court Rolls there. Also that yearly and every year during the term aforesaid they will make and deliver or cause to be delivered by the auditor of the said premises for the time being a true and perfect extract and particular of all and singular the reliefs aforesaid so had, taken or collected, or henceforth to be had, collected and taken and particularly in which lands, closes, grounds, estates, vills, hamlets, wells, gabells, places and counties, the same severally shall grow, happen or come. And also within 3 years next following after the date of these Our Letter Patent, and so henceforth every three years during the term aforesaid they shall make and deliver and cause to be delivered to Us Our heirs and successors into the Exchequer of Us Our heirs and successors a perfect terrier and particular of the aforesaid Forest of Brecon and of the said escheated lands, plainly distinctly and particularly showing and proving the true quantity and number of the fields of the same and also the metes and bounds of the same, *anglice*, the Butfalls and Boundaries, for the better service of Us Our heirs and successors.

And that the said Rice Jones his executors and assigns shall permit the tenants, residents and inhabitants of the lordship of Brecon aforesaid and such other persons whomsoever who from ancient time have usually been accustomed to have pascage, herbage and agistment in the Forest aforesaid to have and enjoy and take the same liberties in the future in such and like manner as hitherto and from ancient time it was accustomed. And shall not permit or cause any other person or persons whomsoever to be permitted to have and enjoy the same liberties and privileges in the herbage and agistment of the said Forest or of any parcel thereof.

Provided always that if it shall happen that the said several rents above by these presents reserved or any of them shall be in arrear and unpaid in part or in the whole by the space of forty days after any feast of the feasts aforesaid whereupon they ought to be fully paid. Or if the said Rice Jones his executors or assigns shall not enrol or cause to be enrolled these Our Letters Patent before the Auditor of the premises for the time being or his sufficient deputy within the space of six months next following after the date of the

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same That then and from thenceforth this Our present demise and grant shall be vacant and of no benefit, anything in these presents to the contrary thereof notwithstanding: any statute, act, ordinance, proviso, proclamation or restriction to the contrary thereof hitherto had, made, edited, ordained, or provided or any other thing cause or matter in anything notwithstanding.

In witness whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent. Witness the said Commissioners of Our Treasury at Westminster the 26th day of September in the 22nd year of Our reign.

Croke.

By the warrant of the said Commissioners.

Enrolled in the Office of the Auditor of Wales the 30th day of November in the 22nd year of the reign of King Charles the Second

By me

Thomas Taylor, Deputy Auditor.

[Endorsed] Dated 6 (?26th) Sept 22nd Chas. 2nd

Copy

Grant of the Agistment of the Great Forest to Mr Rice Jones.—1661.

* “*Feris et cervis*” are by some translators called “Wild animals and fallow deer,” by others, “Wild beasts and stags.”

NOTE.—The above grant of the Agistment of the Great Forest of Brecknock to Mr Rice Jones is dated 1661. We propose to follow this up with a similar grant to Thomas Morgan, Esquire (of Dderw probably) in 1770. This, with documents already published and accessible, will bring the history of the Forest, including its Inclosure and Allotment in 1816-19, down to the present day.

The Manor of Haya Wallensis--I.

The lordship or manor of Haya Wallensis, otherwise Welch Hay, is situate in the parish of Llanigon in the Hundred of Talgarth in the County of Brecon, and extends from the Wye at Fforddfawr over the Black Mountains to the county boundary at Capel-y-ffin. It is also called the Manor of Llanigon—practically it is co-extensive with that parish, and it is further called the Manor of Glynbwch from the brook and village of that name, the Bwch stream joining that of the Honddu at the Capel. Of the early history of the Manor I know little for certain, but this much may be relied upon, that it was like other manors of the neighbourhood, parcel of the possessions of Robert, Earl of Essex, when his estates became forfeited to the Crown.

The present owner is Viscount Hereford, of Tregoyd, and Parliamentary papers show that his grandfather (Henry Viscount Hereford) purchased the Manor, together with various small tenements and lands, being encroachments on the waste, but paying small rents to the Crown, and containing altogether 71 acres, 2 roods, from the Crown in 1827 for £2100. The purchase was actually completed and the money paid on March 4th, 1828.

The Commissioners of Woods and Forests, whose courtesy I wish here to acknowledge, have been good enough to show me a copy of the conveyance referred to, and what is far more explanatory, the sworn Survey of the Manor made in 1807 by Mr Charles Hassall, of Eastwood, Pembrokeshire (the Crown Surveyor) to John Fordyce, then His Majesty's (and I believe the last ever appointed) Surveyor General.

Those who know a little of the history of the Crown Manors in Breconshire are aware that it was the custom of the Crown to farm out their manors to rent to the chief men of the county—generally to the Parliamentary representatives, being presumably men of high position. In this instance we find that John Morgan, of Machen, became the tenant in 1787 for 20 years, at an annual rent of £18 10s, and again subsequently in 1821, Sir Charles Gould—who married the heiress of John Morgan, and had assumed the name of Morgan—was tenant at will under the Crown. I think also he was lessee at the same time of the Great Forest of Brecknock, held under the Crown. It would seem by the Crown Surveyor's report, that in 1807 Mr Thomas Bold, solicitor, of Brecon, was the steward of the Manor, and that he held the Court leets yearly, and duly kept up the rights of the Manor: also that the sporting rights—chiefly famous for grouse and hares—over the lands were carefully preserved by Lord Hereford, under a deputation, as it is termed, from Sir Charles Morgan.

My readers should now take in their hands a copy of the old one-inch Ordnance Tithe Map Survey, having the parish boundaries marked upon it, and follow me as I proceed in the perambulation of the Manor.

Beginning at the river Wye on the South bank (though a small part, it is said, extends to the North side of that river) a breadth of about 300 yards runs up from the river to the turnpike road near Great Fforddfawr: thence proceeding on its Western boundary, we pass up the Nantyscallen (thistlebrook) brook to Cocket and Heol Cadwgan. Thence to Twyn-croes-Walter and Pen-y-twmpa (Lord Hereford's knob), thence along the mountain ridge to Twyntal and Capel-y-ffin, till we meet the Bwch river very near the Chapel.

Thence the boundary turns short back at an acute angle, and proceeds up the river Bwch to Blaen-afon-Bwch, at which point it turns abruptly due South-Westwards to a large stone on the mountain (Twyn-tal-y-cefn) which separates this Manor from those of Mark (? Thomas) Wood and John Macnamara, Esquires.

From this stone the boundary runs along the high ground South-Eastwardly to the great Van—which I take to be the point known and marked on the Ordnance Map as the Blacksmith's anvil, where there is a large stone of that shape, I am informed. Thence it turns due East across Cwm-bwch, following the county boundary to about 400 yards below Capel-y-ffin. Thence ascending to the top of Mynydd Hatrel, it proceeds along the ridge of that mountain to Llêch-y-lladron (the robber's altar)—a big hollow stone, Lord Hereford informs me, at the top of Hatterell and Rotten Hill, and is marked "C.M," for Sir Charles Gould Morgan, the tenant of the Crown when the Manor was sold. The Latin word *latro*, a robber, is derived from this Welsh word, *lladron* (or *vice versa*.)

The boundary now descends on the North side of the Black Mountains, by Rhyd-y-wernen, by Quarre, Ffynnon-velen to Twyn-y-beddau (tump of the graves), and on to Pen-yr-hen-Allt. Here it assumes an irregular line, following the Llanigon parish boundary, by Ponty-fithel, thence to Canon Melyn, and on to Tylè well. Thence it runs across the Kevens to the Hay and Brecon turnpike road, then Westwards for 400 yards up to Llanthomas House, and by Llwyn-llwyd and Little Fforddfawr to Great Ffordfawr, where we started from. And this is the ambit of the Manor, as given by Mr Hassall, the Crown Surveyor, in his sworn survey of 1807.

I must reserve for another paper some remarks as to the customs of the Manor, names of places, its value as commanding one of the chief passes over the Black Mountains, and one of the main fords across the Wye, and other particulars of some interest.

The Manor of Haya Wallensis--II.

Resuming the description of the Manor, a word or two may be interesting as to the 71a. 2r. Op. of land comprised in the sale. It is stated in the survey that these consisted entirely of small encroachments on the waste land made from time to time, having small cottages built upon them, and for which probably first an acknowledgment, and subsequently a rent of a few pounds was paid to the Lord. The names of these encroachments are given as Glynbwch, Wernllwyd, Waungoch, Caeceiliog, Bwlch, Fforth y Glannè, and Nantyscallen, and range from 19 acres to 14 perches in extent. The 72 acres yielded to the Lord a rental of £84 13s. I do not quite know where these bits of land are situated, but I think they are mainly in the Honddu and Bwlch valleys on the Southern slope of the Black Mountains.

One and the chief object of the Crown Surveyor's survey in 1807 was to ascertain the extent and value of the waste lands. The Surveyor reports these to be 6,500 acres in extent, of which 6,000 acres are high and poor and not fit for cultivation or planting, but that about 500 acres on the North side of the mountains, and surrounded by old inclosures, are suited for improvement, and worth seven shillings an acre yearly. The names of these small commons he gives as Waen Croes Howel and Waun y Capel, and a smaller parcel, called Maesgoch.

I must digress a little here for the purpose of describing the inclosures of ancient date—which you find in this Manor, and very extensively in the Manor of the Grange, near Rhayader, recently purchased by the Birmingham Corporation. Usually the Coedcaes in Breconshire are pieces of the mountain added to and joining the farm, and without any house upon them. In this Manor, as in that of the Grange, you find up on the slopes of the hill inclosures by themselves of an acre or perhaps four or five, surrounded entirely by the open hill land. It would seem to be an evidence of the earliest form of sheep farming, when shepherds watched their flocks by night, being practised in those districts. Probably in winter the sheep were taken away to the large homesteads in the low valleys, and when spring came, the shepherds, and possibly herdsmen too, brought up their flocks and herds to the mountain pastures, making use of the enclosure as their resting place, and for numbering, marking, shearing, and generally attending to their stock. Probably the cows were brought up as well, and the processes of a dairy with the making of butter and cheese carried on there. At any rate, the shepherd was there on the spot to see to the wants of the stock, and to protect them from the dangers of robbers, and from beast and birds of prey.

You will find on the one-inch ordnance sheet near Croes Howel in Llanigon parish one of such detached pieces of ground, named on the map as "The Island." I understand there are really two, the Upper and Lower Island, Waun Henry ucha and isha, and both ancient freehold properties. Properly, the name should be Ynys, the Welsh for island, and you find one of these pieces on the Great Forest of Brecon, called Ynys gron, or Ffynnon Ynys gron, the well of the round island. No doubt these isolated hill enclosures were used in olden times for the flocks of the large homesteads lower in the valley. The point is, I think, worthy of notice here, as such isolated enclosures are the exception, not the rule in the system of hill sheep farming in Breconshire, as it has been handed down to us from past centuries.

The customs of the Manor are said to be the payment of fines of 5s on descent, and of fees of 5s on alienation, and also a heriot of the best beast on death of a tenant of the Manor. The last heriot actually taken was, it is said, many years previously, from the widow of Bullock Lloyd, at his decease; afterwards the payment was reckoned at 40s. It was then considered a hard thing to take a heriot in kind. The heriots were larger on the valley lands than on the hill farms.

The Ceisiad (to ask) Medy (to reap) had long been discontinued, except from the lordship of Kilonw, owned by Lord Ashburnham, to which I shall refer presently. You find

these payments made in Patrishow parish, according to Theophilus Jones, but I have not met with them elsewhere.

Chief rents in small fixed sums were regularly paid by the tenants of the Manor, and a list is found in the survey, and I give a few of the names of the tenements, some of which do not appear on the map—Tal-y-sarn, owned by George Watkins; Cockett, by Bullock Lloyd; Caermarchog, Tirllwyn Magan, Tir Henry Simon, Tir George Simon, and also Talsarn. I think sarn means a causeway.

The full rent roll of the Manor is given as follows:—Chief rents of lordship of Llanigon or Glynbwch, £10 0. 1.; Cymmorth, every two years, £3. 2s. 6½ (being half of £6. 0s. 5½d); yearly rents, £34. 5s.; Ceisiad and Medy of Kilonw, 15s 9d; Cymmorth of Kilonw, £1. 8s. 9½d; total rental of Manor, £49. 12s 1d. The survey is not very clear on the following points, namely, as to the Manor of Kilonw within this lordship, which owns the Earl of Ashburnham as Lord, and pays chief rents to him, while paying some dues, as stated, to the Crown; nor as to the small manor of Parkbach, said to be surrounded by the Crown Manor, and belonging to Davies Esqre; nor as to Llangwerthan, which is said to be a detached parcel of the Crown Manor lying within Mrs Harley's Manor of Hay. I simply note what is stated in the survey, and must pass on, but both places will be found on the ordnance map.

No map of the Manor generally is appended to the survey, but of the various parcels of encroachment lands, comprising the 72 acres, very carefully made maps are given in a special map book, and are as fresh and clear to-day as when they were made. Some of the old map makers, especially David Davies, of Llangattock Court, did some excellent work, and his maps of the Court estate there, now in the possession of our family, are quite a work of art.

It appears from the survey, there were no fisheries belonging to the Manor, nor mines, collieries, or any sign of minerals, but there was an immense stretch of stone fit for building and flagstone, but of no value, because the landowners got sufficient supplies on their own private land. There was, however, on Waun Croes Howell, a quarry of inferior tilestone, worked by John George, who paid Sir Charles Morgan, the Crown lessee, £1 1s. a year. The shooting rights for grouse and hares were said to be valuable. It was also stated that there was no timber on the waste lands of the Manor.

The Surveyor, lastly, considers the property an unimprovable one, and that it would not be worth while to obtain an Act of Parliament to enclose the waste lands, of which only 500 acres were capable of improvement, and finally recommends the Crown to put it up to sale by auction. As we have seen, this advice was subsequently acted upon, and Henry Viscount Hereford became the purchaser in 1827-8.

And here I must make a slight digression, and it is for the purpose of asking how the name of Glyn Vach ever came into existence. It figures now as the name of a hamlet, and is so described and mapped on the recent Ordnance Survey. We have Taf-fechan and Taf-fawr, but I do not remember the title of Vach applied to a valley by itself by the old place-namers. Like Tybach, it does not sound to me as good Welsh, but an English half satirical name. Where is the Glynfawr, if there is a Glyn Vach? True, there is Velinfach and Vennivach! But what do you say to this? One of the names of this Manor is Glyn-bwch, or the valley of the buck, and the stream joining the Honddu at the Capel is called the Bwch to this day. Obviously to my mind the name of Glyn-fach has been allowed erroneously to supersede the true and olden name of Glyn-bwch, denoting the haunt of the antlered stag, and the cool deep pool, where the panting hart cooled his flanks in the noontide heat. There is some romance in this; in Glyn-vach absolutely none!

And now what about the ancient history of the Manor! The muniment room of the office of Woods and Forests has nothing, I am informed, to help us, except so far as to show that the Manor came to the Crown by the forfeiture of the estates of the Earl of Essex. I do not think our early county historian (Jones) tells us anything, but I am informed by the present Viscount Hereford, that he has a survey of the Manor (temp: James I), but which I have not seen. The mountains, too, are silent, and the rivers, roads, vallies, and rocks can tell us nothing, except what in conjunction with Llanthony

Abbey, and the important ford over the Wye near Glasbury, their position and formation and ancient place-names reveal.

Poets are said to invoke the aid of the muses when they write. We must ask the aid of the genius of the past, when the mind tries to picture scenes of ages long ago, and of which not the trace of a record now exists.

Apparently there was no stronghold or castle within the Manor, and its narrow area lay between the Castle of Hay on the east, and Dinas Castle on the west, stretching right from Fforddfawr on the Wye practically to the great Abbey of Llanthony on the farther side of the Black Mountains. The road from Llanthony led up to the Honddu Valley to the pass at Bwlch-y-fingel (or efengyl)—the gospel pass, thence down by the two roadside crosses, known as Croes Howel, and then down to Fforddfawr (Great Way) where a famous ford across the Wye was available. The perambulation of the Manor, which has already been given, shows that the Manor just touched the river's bank here for a few hundreds of yards only, just sufficient for fording purposes. On the opposite side of the river we find the corresponding name of Penrhudd, or the head of a ford, and thence over the common lands a broad open way led to Painscastle in Radnorshire, a place of great renown, and away to Leominster, Wigmore, Abbey Cwmhir, Buildwas (in Shropshire), and all the great Abbeys in the North. I believe this Manor was originally, or at some date, an Ecclesiastical one, and its chief value was in protecting the great highway from the North of England for monks and pilgrims to Llanthony, and other Abbeys in the South.

At the same time I must not forget the claims to be advanced on behalf of Glasbury manor to the possession of a *sacra via* by Rhiw Wen over the Black Mountains. Possibly both may have served the same purpose, and the monks and pilgrims had the choice of two roads, according as one was deemed safer than the other, or more easy of ascent. Let Glasbury and Haya Wallensis share the fame.

* * I think this Park-bach must be Parc-y-meirch across the county boundary, not far from Crasswall Chapel. I remember Mr Thomas Davies, of Llangattock Court (Twm Davies as he was known) having property himself, or being agent for property close to Crasswall Chapel.

A detailed account of some of the antiquities of this very interesting parish of Llanigon I may be able to give some other day. Twyn-y-beddau deserves some notice, also the large flat stone on the side of the road leading from Hay to Llanthony, said to mark the burial place of a murdered Scotch pedlar, or, according to another account, of a British prince. And again another large stone of peculiar form, standing upright in a ditch near Penlan, has probably some interesting history. When we have a parochial glossary of Welsh place-names in Breconshire, many ancient secrets may be revealed. In these papers I have confined my remarks chiefly to the Manor.

[See Parliamentary Survey No. 91 of Welsh Haya Manor—page 20 *ante*.]

Glasbury Bridge.

Formerly the boundary of Radnorshire crossed the Wye about half a mile above Glasbury, and enclosing about 470 acres on the right bank, on which the Railway Station, Church, and School now stand, returned again to the river about half a mile below. It took a kind of square bite out of the Breconshire side of the river.

In 1832, when the Parliamentary Reform Act was passed, an Act was also passed for the purpose of rectifying County Boundaries, in order to facilitate the polling of the electors, and this "isolated or detached" piece of Radnorshire was then added to Breconshire for electoral purposes only. At least, the provisions of the Act were so understood, though as will be seen later, the description of the area was inaccurately given in the Schedule to the Act.

In 1844—that is about twelve years later—another Act was passed declaring all such outlying areas, if transferred for electoral purposes, to belong absolutely to the County to which they had been transferred.

Upon this disputes began between the counties, Breconshire contending that the Schedule of the 1832 Act did not refer to this particular portion of land, Radnorshire contending that it did. And so the controversy went on for several years, neither County claiming the area, and neither levying any County Rate upon it. No doubt the ground of objection on the part of Breconshire to the transfer, was that the liability to repair one half of Glasbury Bridge would be thrown upon that County, if they took over the area named.

Glasbury Bridge, on the Breconshire side, had now become impassable through want of repairs, and the Rev. R. Lister Venables, a magistrate for both Counties, made a presentment at the Breconshire October Quarter Sessions, 1847, calling upon that County to repair one half of the bridge. The Justices were equal to the occasion, and being so advised, held that a presentment could not be lawfully made by one Justice only. The matter was carried by writ of *certiorari* to the London Courts, when on a rule *nisi* being obtained by Breconshire, it was decided that the power of one Justice to make a presentment in such cases had not been repealed by 5 and 6 Wm. IV., cap. 50, as Breconshire had contended. This was the first victory for Radnorshire over her sister County.

Then followed the indictment, *Regina v. Breconshire*, for the non-repair of their half of the Bridge at the Summer Assizes of 1849 at Hereford, before Baron Rolfe, and a verdict was given against Breconshire.

However, an appeal was lodged, and came on for hearing before Justices Patteson, Erle, and Coleridge, in the London Courts. Mr. Phipson contended for Breconshire that the Schedule to the Boundary Act of 1832 did not refer to this particular area at all, as it was described as being in Breconshire, whereas it had always been in Radnorshire. The Court, however, held that though the Schedule was "incomprehensible," yet as the legislature must have meant something, and that the only thing it could have meant was to deal with this outlying portion, it must be so considered.

Mr. Phipson, for Breconshire, then advanced a second contention. It was, that only the bank of the river and the 470 acres were transferred, and not the bed of the river itself; and that, therefore, if Breconshire built an abutment on their bank to receive the end of the Radnorshire Bridge, it would be all that they were required to do. However, the Court overruled this ingenious argument, and held that half the river, according to the maxim, *usque ad melius filum aque*, passed with the transferred land, and with it the liability of Breconshire to repair one half the Bridge. During the case, several arguments were raised as to the meaning of the terms "isolated" and "detached," as applied to a case like this, where really the river was the only isolating or detaching element.

However, Breconshire was defeated on all points, and this portion of the Bridge being now ruinous, that County accepting their defeat, proceeded to put up stone piers instead

of wooden piles, and the river being deep at that point, with a gravel bottom, a couple of thousand pounds had to be spent on the work.

Perhaps some blame rests on Breconshire for resisting the transfer, and pursuing what proved a profitless litigation; but the chief blame undoubtedly rested with the legislature, which first of all carelessly inserted a Schedule in the 1832 Act, which was "incomprehensible," if strictly interpreted—in fact it was sheer nonsense; and secondly, by another Act passed twelve years later, transferred these 470 acres for all purposes whatever, without taking into consideration in any way the responsibilities thrown on fresh shoulders in consequence. In this case Breconshire had to face an immediate outlay of £2,000, and gained only an increase of rateable value of, say, £470 a year. When the transfer was made in 1844 finally by Parliament, the Act should have contained a clause providing for the adjustment of liabilities between the counties affected, but this was not done.

I would add an observation of my own, after studying this case, the Great Forest of Brecon Inclosure Acts, and the Tithe and Poor Law Acts, that from some cause or another—probably ignorance of the County and its distance from the seat of Government—the interests of Breconshire have been carelessly treated in the past—in a kind of slipshod fashion—by the Legislature, and that in consequence, difficulties, heart burnings, and positive injury have been occasioned, lasting to this day, when really with proper care and due inquiry, anything of the kind could have been avoided, or certainly much lessened. In the matter of Chancery and the administration of estates under it, Wales has been dragged cruelly at the heels of England, and that scandalous case of *Price v. North*, by which numbers of Breconshire men were given years of trouble and uneasiness, and caused much loss, and by which several were completely ruined, very much owing to the law's procrastination, is a living instance of it to-day.

I cannot part company with the history of the Bridge without noting what Jones in his history of Breconshire, and Ireland in his "River Wye," state as to the disastrous fate of three bridges built successively by Radnorshire at this spot in the last century. No wonder but that the county was greatly pleased to get rid of part of the responsibility by making Breconshire a partner, and that the latter was reluctant to enter into a partnership in a property which had proved a *damnosa hereditas* to its former sole owner.

Jones (Vol. II., p. 388—published 1809) writes:—"Unfortunately for the County of Radnor, the present bridge (as well as three which have preceded it, and have been destroyed almost within memory of man) is within that part of the County which intrudes into Breconshire. The first bridge was just before Mr. Hughes' house, called the Dolphin, and fell in 1738; the next was nearly in the same situation, and continued about forty years, both these were of wood. The third was a beautiful bridge of stone, built by Edwards in 1777, who assisted his father to build the great one-arched bridge upon the Taf. It fell down in the great flood in February, 1795, for want of proper attention to its foundation, which was undermined. It stood nearly where the present bridge of wood, erected in 1800, is situated."

Ireland in his "River Wye," p. 28 (published in 1797) writes:—"In the midst of this rich and beautiful valley, an elegant stone bridge of seven arches is thrown across the river. It was built about 14 years ago by the family of Edwards, under the direction of their father, the celebrated architect of Pontypridd. The adjoining view (see sketch in book) was made in August, 1794; in the ensuing winter the bridge was totally destroyed, which will in some degree give value to this sketch, as a memorial of that which is at present little more than a wreck, every arch of it having been blown up by the torrent of ice, which passed down on the very sudden thaw after the long frost in the beginning of 1795."

The sketch given by Ireland shows it to have been a very graceful bridge, quite an ornament to the valley.

The flood of 1795 was one of the highest and most disastrous ever known on the Wye. It attained its greatest height at Hereford on Wednesday evening at six o'clock on February 11th, at which time it was said to be two feet five inches higher than any flood ever known by the oldest resident. A brass plate still records the height and date in Mr.

W. Stephens' yard, near Wye Bridge. At the village of Hampton Bishop the water rose six feet in half an hour. All but the very strongest bridges were washed away, including those of Glasbury, Hay, and Whitney. A farmer of Clyro, named Lloyd, was crossing Hay bridge at the time it fell, and was drowned. Ross (Wilton) and Monmouth bridges were said to have been much damaged. A similarly disastrous flood occurred in the Usk at the same time, though I think the brass plate formerly on the front of the Forge Mill, near the town of Usk, recorded the date as February 10th. The middle pier of Usk bridge was then carried down, but the arches were left standing. January of that year was the coldest known for the previous hundred years, having an average temperature of 24 degrees. The ice on the Wye at Ross measured one foot thick.

So far the stone piers placed by Breconshire on their half of the bridge in 1851-4, have safely stood, and the late County Surveyor, Mr. William Williams, and his late father, are entitled to great praise for the good work done. A day, however, of crucial trial, like that in 1795, may yet be in store, and it certainly behoves the County Surveyors of both counties to keep a watchful eye on Glasbury bridge.

Glasbury and the County Boundary.

Those who have not looked closely into the subject, but yet possess the knowledge that some change was made by law in the boundary line between Breconshire and Radnorshire during the present century are under the impression, I find, that some modern shifting of the course of the Wye was the original cause; in other words, that the Wye had always in ancient times been the boundary line uninterruptedly between the two counties, but subsequently changing its course had left a piece of Radnorshire high and dry on the Breconshire side, isolated from the rest of the county; and that modern legislation was simply for the purpose of again rectifying the boundary line, so as to make it march with the river's banks.

Of course this is an error, and an inspection of the ordnance map or a visit to the locality would immediately dispel it. As far as it is possible to judge, there has not been for thousands of years any considerable change in the river's course at Glasbury bridge. Where stand Glasbury Church, the Railway Station, and the School, there is a firm high bank or knoll of ground extending half a mile back ("intruding" into Breconshire as Jones has put it), which was Radnorshire land, and to the south of which, communicating as it did continuously with high ground right up to the Black Mountains, the River Wye could not possibly have ever flowed. And now comes what I believe to be the true and certainly interesting explanation of the case.

Your readers will bear in mind that the five border counties of Wales—Monmouth, Brecon, Radnor, Montgomery, and Denbigh—were divided into various Marches, and governed according to Welsh laws and customs by Lord Marchers up to the time of the reign of Henry VIII. By 27, Henry VIII., cap. 26, extensive changes and rearrangements were made, and the Marches were formed into Shires for the first time. The most considerable change was the lopping off of large portions of the Marches and adding them to the English Shires of Salop, Hereford, and Gloucester, and in every case, as throughout Wales, the English tenure was to take the place of Welsh tenure, customs and laws. We find, by section 5, various named lordships, townships, parishes, commotes, and cantreds, and all the castles, manors, and lands within their compass were to be reputed, and to stand as part of the Shire of Breconshire. And by section 6, of the same Act, other lordships, townships, and parishes, &c., were to be reputed and to stand as part of the

County or Shire of Radnor, and from that date the Manor and Parish of Glasbury, no matter on which side of the Wye they were, became part of Radnor. A rough and ready method was adopted, and lordships, manors, and parishes were allocated in their integrity to this or that county.

So far, all is clear, and the land belonging to the Manor and Parish of Glasbury, wherever it might have been (and some was on the Breconshire side of the river) passed, as a matter of course, under the statute to Radnorshire.

Now comes for consideration the more interesting and difficult question—how was it that the Manor and Parish of Glasbury extended to both sides of a great river like the Wye, which for weeks together must have been in the early days, in the absence of a bridge, impassable except by ferry boats? For the present at least, we can leave out the parish, as that presumably followed the manor, and deal only with the Manor of Glasbury.

The first clue is in its name—Glās-bury—which I take to mean, "The green ditches of a fortified place on a hill." This answers the description of the natural bank of ground on the Breconshire side, behind the Railway Station. Remains of ditches and fortifications are to be seen there to-day, and one roadway is now known as Heol-y-gaer, or the Road of the Camp. Obviously, the ground was selected to command the first practicable fords of the Wye, after leaving the narrow gorge, in which it had flowed from Builth down to that point. Here were inviting and practicable fords for crossing the great river, and naturally it was the duty of a General, whether Roman, Saxon, or only a Lord Marcher, to seize this advantageous point, and so command the passage of the stream.

The course of all great rivers is studded with castles and camps at such points, and on the Wye itself it is easy to mention several, especially Clifford, Hereford, Wilton, and Goodrich Castles, commanding the convenient fords adjacent thereto. Fords and bridges have ever played important parts in warfare, from the time of Horatius, Xerxes, and Cæsar in Gaul and Britain, and Henry V., at Agincourt, where Fluellen tells King Henry "The Duke of Exeter was a prave man, and gallantly maintained the pridge." Our modern fighting men would describe a post of this kind as a *tête du pont*, and mounted volunteers would be sent forward in advance to seize it. Are there any local names denoting "bloodful engagements" at this spot? as Edward Morgan describes them, in his song. What do you think of Treble Hill? It sounds like Trouble Hill. But that will not do. What do you say to the derivation "tre," a town, and "bel," war or tumult? That would suit the place accurately.

It seems to me that this was a fortified place in the Roman and Saxon days, long before the Norman conquest, and wherever you find common lands of the Lammas character, that is lands closed for hay for the summer months, and open to all commoners during the winter months, as is the case here on the Gro Common, that circumstance probably denotes a Saxon division and arrangement of the common land.

We learn from Jones, in his "History of Breconshire," p. 359. New Ed., that Bernard Newmarch, in 1088, or a few years before his conquest of Brecon, gave the advowson of Glasbury to the monks of Gloucester in the time of Abbot Serlo, and also that the meane manor of Glasbury was held by the same monks—probably a gift also from the same Lord—in 1144, when it passed by exchange to the Cliffords, subsequently to the Giffards. Ultimately it came to the Crown, by whom it was granted to Sir David Williams, the ancestor of the present holder, Colonel Thomas Wood, of Gwernynyfed.

Various names of places in the immediate vicinity point to a great thoroughfare across the river at this point. Ffordd fawr—or the great highway—and Croeshowell—the cross of Howell—occur on the line of road leading to the river. Besides, and apart from commanding the ford, this point of vantage at Glasbury may have enabled the monks of Gloucester to levy a goodly sum in toll from passengers crossing the river at this point.

I have been much struck by the circumstance, that a long strip of Glasbury parish—when first part of the parish I do not know—stretches across the Black Mountains to Capel-y-fin (the chapel of the boundary) within a very few miles of Llanthony Abbey, and it has occurred to me as possible that by the way of the ford at Glasbury over the river, and subsequently along this part of Glasbury parish, a kind of sacred way was reserved for

pilgrims from the Abbeys of North Wales and even Shropshire to Llanthony. This is pure conjecture, though we have reason to believe such a sacred way was kept outside Brecon Forest for an interchange of visits between the monks of Brecon Priory and those of Neath Abbey.

The whole district of Glasbury on the Breconshire side is most interesting historically, and also the neighbouring parish of Llanigon, where such suggestive names as Cae Cadifor, Hen gastell, Twyn-y-beddau, Castell-fferwydd, Maesgoch, Cadwgan, are to be found, and Poole in his history of Breconshire (page 216) writes that the *tumulus* below Llanthomas is said to direct to the ford on the Wye.

On the mountains near Capel-y-ffin, is a fine range of rocks, called Taren yr Esgob, where some worthy bishop, escaping from his enemies, is said to have fallen over, and been killed. Also Dr. Bull, in the Woolhope Club Papers, tells us that there is to be seen in that district a large mass of Travertine, which is called Twlch-y-toel-las, or the cave of the grey stone. It is about 24 feet wide, 30ft. high, and 210 feet in circumference, and has within it a hollow capable of holding several people. Apparently it had fallen from the rocks above. There is a tradition that St. Paul visited this district, and a pass in one of the valleys is called Bwlch Efenygl, or the Gospel Pass, to this day. The whole range of the Black Mountains, Dr. Bull adds, is full of history and legends yet to be written.

There was also once a Glasbury cross, and in Richard Symons' "Diary of the Marches of the Royal Army during the Great Civil War," several references are made to the numerous and perfect crosses found in Breconshire. I hope to make a list of places in our county having *croes* as some part of their names, and it will be found there are several, but probably more in the neighbourhood of Glasbury than in any other part, that being essentially a strong ecclesiastical (Roman Catholic) district in olden time.

Other places in the vicinity have curious names: Pipton, or Pepperton, the manor being so called and held formerly by the payment of a pound of pepper annually to the Crown by the lord; and the "Stonces," those ninety acres of rich meadow land by the riverside in Breconshire, so called from large stones being used as mere or meare stones, or possibly as stepping stones across the Llynfi to the site of the old church.* Our little town of Staines on the Thames has its name thus derived. How rich this land must be can be imagined when we know that the 90 acres bear £30 tithe annually, or a lawyer's 6s. 8d. for every acre, probably the highest tithed land in Breconshire. The parish of Aberllynfi is a curiosity. It has no church, and is the only parish in the county that pays no tithe.

In conclusion, this piece of Glasbury manor, 470 acres in extent, intruding into Breconshire at this point, was made part of Radnorshire by the Act of Henry VIII., following the rest of the manor. And the manor itself comprised this high bit of naturally fortified ground, because it gave the owner command of the ford for offence and defence, and in times of peace for levying tolls on travellers, merchandise, and possibly on Welsh drovers taking their droves of black Castlemartin cattle across the river into England.

*See note, page 78.

Glasbury (continued).

Before I quite leave Glasbury, I must mention an interesting fact that has come to my knowledge since I wrote the preceding papers.

Your readers will remember the situation of the old church near the lower end of the delta of land known as the Stonces, between the Wye and its tributary, the Llynfi. Well, standing on the platform of Glasbury station and looking across the Wye—and a charming view it is—you will see by the sharp corner of the high river wall on the Radnorshire side of the Wye an old-fashioned house of two stories, one large gable forming almost the entire south front riverwards. It is evidently a house of three, four or

even five hundred years old, and resembles very much the old Church Cottage near the entrance to the churchyard of Llangattock, Crickhowell. This was the vicarage attached to the old church, but long since separated from the site by the full volume of the majestic Wye. And in this vicarage there is still, I am told, a peculiar little closet with just room for one person, and to which there was a narrow little window looking out, all to itself, as we say. The vicarage and old church were, of course, built by our pious ancestors of the Roman Catholic faith, whose zeal in religion and in building places of worship is only equalled by that of Welsh Nonconformists; and whether this little single chamber was built and used for the self-infliction of punishment, fasting, private prayer, by the priest in charge, or possibly as a cool larder for Wye salmon and Lenten fish, or as a look-out across the river, I can at present offer no opinion. Places of concealment in such old houses are not uncommon, but if this had been intended as such, there would scarcely have been provided a lancet window looking outwards. The old house, still in good repair, is remarkable in other respects, having very thick walls, old oak staircase and landing, on which there is a kind of arch, having as its tympanum a trace of a figure carved, which some think is that of the Virgin Mary. My informant also tells me that the north front of this Elizabethan style vicarage is much more picturesque than even that of the south.

And now I must ask my readers to look still more searchingly across the river from this point of vantage at the railway platform, and they will see the long row roof of the tithe-barn to the east of the vicarage. What pictures in the mind does the sight of one of these old barns conjure up! You see them everywhere near the rectory and vicarage houses, and all will remember those at the Priory and St. David's churches in Brecon, especially that roomy one near the old Llanfaes turnpike gate. It was essential that they should be roomy, as the ecclesiastics looked sharply after their "tenths," and thither was brought a tithe of all the wheat, barley and oats grown in the parish, and of course there must be room besides for the holly stick flail to thresh the corn on the wooden floor. Those were primitive good old times, when tithes were paid in kind,—now we pay them by cheque!

I have an object in enlarging on all this, and it is to show—and I think the conclusion is irresistible—that the old vicarage, and the tithe barn, and the old church were never separate when built, but stood on the same mainland together and in close proximity. In saying this I have to make no correction of what I have previously written. My contention that the high ground by and above the railway station had been made part of Glasbury manor and parish in order to secure the ford for crossing the river still remains good. It is quite consistent with the position as it now is and as I conceived it once to have been, and the point now for consideration is, how and in what manner the site of the old church became separated from that of the vicarage, and what vagaries fair Vaga made in her course through the valley some 250 years and more ago.

To this point I have the attention of two friends of mine directed, who are resident in the district, and experts in the study of rivers, and we may shortly have some light thrown upon it. Old river beds and courses are not easily obliterated, though hundreds of years may have passed since the stream flowed by that way.

My theory is the Island one—and islands are commonly found in large rivers where civilised man has not interfered—and in this way. Near the Spread Eagle, the Wye was divided into two arms or branches, one and practically the main stream flowing to the right near the present course of the Llynfi, and the other flowing to the left in a great sweep under Lower Scynlas, and north of Glasbury village at the foot of Maesllwch Park, both streams uniting again near Glanhenwey or thereabouts.

Then came man on the scene. The inhabitants found it inconvenient to be living practically on an island, and proceeded to throw a dam across the left branch near Woodlands. On some high flood or other, this obstruction caused the river to strike a new channel between the old church and the vicarage, subsequently uniting with the right branch just at the present confluence of the Llynfi. Those on the spot will notice the high stone wall round the vicarage grounds as a protection from the river. It is a work of no small magnitude, and was not paid for by the occupier of the vicarage, but probably out of the funds of Gloucester Abbey. The vicarage and the village were saved, though the church was unavoidably severed.

Then came the third and last scene. The monks saw their rich lands on the Stonces to be an island and of less value to them, and the two branches of the stream on either side of the valley devastating good ground. So being thus advised they resolved to cut a straight new course through the Stonces, and carry both branches in one channel down, much as we see it to-day. In those times the level of the Stonces meadows was much lower than it is now, and a small channel could have been easily formed. In fact the river itself makes the new channel when you stop the entrances to the branches at their top. The cut through the Island on the Usk just below Brecon was formed thus about 1880, and I saw the water let into a similar cut made in the Cynrig on Abercynrig Farm. It was a pretty sight to see the stream pour through, and a cut of 10 feet wide became one of 20 feet wide in a night. And very recently Colonel Wood turned the Wye through the horseshoe below Glasbury Bridge, and the monks of old—witness the Bishop's Stank at Hampton Bishop, Hereford—knew a good deal about engineering, as well as about the true lines of a Norman arch. However, I may have more to say as to this later.

I am a great believer in Welsh place-names, and my ambition would be to put together a glossary of our Breconshire names, parish by parish, with a cross index for the whole county. Who will help? But I have learnt to place little faith in English names, whether in England or Wales. I remember finding the name of an inn in a village on the banks of the little river Gade, right up among the chalk hills of the Chiltern Hundreds. I jumped to the conclusion that, just as at Llangynider, Crickhowell, Abergavenny, and Usk, the sign of the "Three Salmons" truly denotes the presence of the monarch of the stream in the bright waters of the Usk, so the "Salmon Inn" near the waters of the Gade spoke of that lordly fish visiting its stream in days of old, having passed the Nore and London Bridge on his way up the Thames. But a F.R.S.—how wise these Fellows are, and how affectionately they co-opt their friends as Fellows; they would not make dear old Frank Buckland one, he was forsooth too superficial!—dispelled my fond illusion. He said, "Nothing of the kind; a truck of Scotch salmon was upset on the North Western, and the contents scattered about, and so to commemorate the salmon feast the people gave the inn, where they swilled the tasty morsels down, the immortal title of the "Salmon Inn." I still believe my theory to be right, but of course I am wrong, as a F.R.S. must know!

This is *apropos* of the Spread Eagle sign of a public house near Pipton (Pepperton). Your readers are familiar with it as the crest of imperialism abroad, and the American Eagle much resembles it. Would it have any relation to the division and bifurcation of the Wye at this point in some small degree, if not to the great extent I have sketched out? and we all know the figure of spread eagle in skating. After all it is only a modern English name, and perhaps has no meaning at all of any value.

And there is another place with a queer English name near Glasbury bridge—the Dolphin. How comes that? I could write a page about the dolphin fish with his changing colours when dying, his love for music when alive, and how he carried Arion, the poet and minstrel, on his back safely away from his would-be murderers. But why this house was called the Dolphin, that I cannot tell!

Glasbury and District.

A FEW MORE NOTES.

Llanthony Abbey is, as we all know, in the Vale of Honddu, or Ewias Harold, in Monmouthshire, but I forgot to mention that Father Ignatius' modern monastery, or religious building, is in the parish of Llanigon in Breconshire, and the land on which it stands is subject to tithe to the Vicar of that parish.

There are two names of places mentioned on Theophilus Jones' map of the county, of which I can find no record elsewhere. Both are near the extreme eastern point of Breconshire, overlooking the valley of the Dulas (Hay). The one he gives as Sykes' cot or cottage, and the other marked by the drawing of a large upright stone on the map, is Maen Rhywr Darren, the stone itself being called Carreg Llwyd, and marking the boundary between Llanigon and Hay parishes. Is this the same stone as llech-y-lladron (robbers' altar), and does Sykes' Cot still exist? And I observe Jones mentions at page 6, New. Ed., that Llangwaithan, or Llanywerthan Mill and two meadows are situated within Hay parish on the Dulas brook, but which are part of Llanigon. They are also, as I have previously pointed out, part of the Manor of Llanigon (Haya Wallensis), and no doubt had been so appropriated, as a mill for grinding the corn of the Lord's tenants. In the case of the Great Forest of Brecon 7 mills of this character were held with the Forest, down to the commencement of the present century.

I wonder who helped our first county historian to prepare his county map, which appears at the commencement of his Work. It is skilfully and accurately made, and I expect David Davies, the famous surveyor of Llangattock, Crickhowell, was the real author. The scale of the map of 3-8ths of one inch to the mile, is less by more than one half than that of the one inch ordnance sheet. The size of the map is about 15 in. by 16 in. At the foot is a very striking and bold engraving, representing the summit of our Beacon range. I think I have seen somewhere that this sketch was made by Sir Richard C. Hoare, who drew several for the historian, but the copy from the original was made for him by Mr. David Davies, the surveyor, in 1804. But it is as an engraving that this must stand as a work of great skill, whoever the craftsman may have been. Those who have seen our majestic Beacons in a thunderstorm at night, every peak momentarily lighted up by the lightning's lurid flash, will then have seen the view which this engraving presents. All darkness in the valleys below, but the summit outlines in their grandeur all visible for the moment!

Our historian must have had considerable trouble with his map in any case. Map makers generally copy the one from the other, everlastingly perpetuating mistakes. I remember seeing the device on the frontispiece of one old map of a strong man beating a snake on a dog's back, and the motto is "*indefessus agendo*"—I am never wearied in doing it—that means, unceasingly correcting mistakes. In a corner was a vignette of Father Time—with his scythe, as much as to say, do what you like, your map will be full of errors and out of date in a very few years! Of course, when Jones made his map, the first ordnance survey was not completed. He must have copied a good deal, probably from some older map or other.

There are three very old English maps of renown, all published in the 16th and 17th century. It was in 1578 that Christopher Saxton brought out his celebrated map of England and Wales; in 1606 Speed followed with his great map, and later in the 17th century a German named Jean Blaeu, or Blavius, brought out an elaborate map of the English and Welsh counties. It was dedicated to Princess Henrietta Marie, Queen of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, and daughter of Henry le Grand, King of France and Navarre. This lady, daughter of Henry of Navarre, King of France, was the wife of our Charles I., and after her husband's execution lived in exile on the

Continent up to the time of her death in 1660. The Blaeu family were celebrated publishers at Amsterdam, and, no doubt, produced this great work at the request, and possibly at the cost of the Ex-Queen of England. The German profusely illustrated his maps with coloured sketches of industries, and with fanciful devices, and the picture of two German peasants—with the build and dress of such—reaping the golden grain in an English corn field is strangely incongruous. Of course, presumably, the German artist had never seen an English peasant !

I looked at these three old maps very carefully to see where they had placed Glasbury Church, which we know was pulled down and rebuilt on another site in 1661. All of them place the church on the left bank of the river, and not on the right bank as it really was. They also mark the junction of the Llynfi quite as high up as Aberllynfi. They seem to have copied from still older maps, and their handiwork is of little value to us in attempting to trace out the ancient changes that have evidently taken place at that point in the course of the Wye. Jones, however, killed this particular snake, and by his local knowledge was able to map the church on the right bank of the river.

This leads me to make the remark, that this country, as I have long known, has been greatly deficient in good maps, whether of geography or of geology, and there is a field open here for any clever Welsh draughtsman to find employment, and to go, if really skilful in his work, to the very forefront. The routine of private map establishments is not conducive to the display of talent and original work, and the proprietors are content to follow and wait upon instead of anticipating the public demand, and then only in a hurried and the least expensive manner. The first question to map sellers is whether it will pay to produce a map, not whether it is wanted, and will be of public service.

I must hark back from maps and map-making to Glasbury Manor, with reference to which I have still a few interesting particulars to give, thanks to the kindness and with the permission of Colonel Thomas Wood.

Close to Twyn-tal-y-cefn, the well marked tump on the mountain, where the Manors of Dinas, Velindre, and Haya Wallensis meet, a stone still stands, marked on the South side "Sir Edward Williams Bart's Lordship of Dynas, 1759," and on the north side "and of Velindre." In 1848 there was a dispute between Lord Hereford and Col. Wood, of Littleton, our then county member, as to boundaries, and according to an award in an arbitration made December 5th, 1848, a new stone was added by the side of the above old one, with a "V" on the one side for Velindre, and "L" for Llanigon on the other.

Referring back a little, we find, that on Sir E. Williams' death in 1803, the Colonel Wood named inherited all his Breconshire property through his mother, but it appeared that Mr. Macnamara, a London solicitor, had lent large sums of money on mortgage to Sir Edward Williams, and after a long lawsuit it was decided that the Wood family retained only the settled property, losing the manors of Dynas, Cantref-selyff, and others. These manors, with the other unsettled property of Sir Edward Williams, were subsequently bought, sometime between 1840-50, by the first Sir Joseph Bailey, of Glanusk, from Arthur Macnamara, son of John Macnamara. And here I may correct a slight error in the Crown Surveyor's report on Haya Wallensis manor. For "Mark Wood" read "Colonel Thomas Wood."

Glasbury.

A FEW MORE NOTES.

It would seem that in 1561 the Lordship and Castle (with various demesne lands) of Glasbury were possessed by Queen Elizabeth in right of the Crown, and Her Majesty then appointed certain commissioners—William Wightman, Robert Moulton, John Gwyn, James Lewis, and Robert Davies by name—to enquire and report concerning this lordship. A jury was accordingly impanelled by them, and a sworn presentment and verdict made by the jurors as to the extent of the lands and their description, and the rights and customs of the manor. The presentment was made at Radnor on the 14th November, 1561, and a copy of it Col. Wood has been good enough to let me see.

In the first place, how the Lordship came to the Queen at all, that I do not know. Probably it descended to her from her father, Henry VIII., but it is quite possible that she herself acquired it from the Church, because I find by 1st Elizabeth c. 9, power was given to take Church lands, if impropriate livings, and tenths in the hands of the Crown were assigned to the Church in lieu of and as an equivalent to the lands.

We have seen in previous papers that the Earl of Essex held property in this neighbourhood, and it occurred to me at first that this manor came to the Crown through his attainder for high treason, but this could hardly be, as this great favourite of the Queen was not beheaded in the Tower until 1601. I am inclined to think on the whole that this was the hereditary property of the Crown at the time of the accession of Queen Elizabeth, in 1558, and that the survey at the commencement of her reign naturally followed.

According to this presentment, a large extent of land belonged in fee to the lordship, the greater part of which was at the time held from the Crown by John Gunter on lease. Particulars and names are given, but it is very difficult to identify the fields now from the description. And the same applies to the boundary of the lordship, which, however, I here give, as some greater experts than myself may be able to make out the boundary.

“ And, further, the said jury upon their oaths do say, that the mears and bounds of the Lordship of Glasbury are these, viz., from a place called Garrig by Wye side eastward following the ditch between Melinoge and Glasbury to a place called Kefn Trewgoed, from thence to Hether-goz, from thence to the house of Henry Phems, from thence to a place called Chad, and then to the Lord's wood called Parke Coyde bollen, from thence to Gurglodd Thomas Williams, and from thence to pass over the rivers Leveney and Wye to the Castle banks of Caleybury, from thence hard by the river side to Tyr-trappe, from thence to Llore-plonkhat, and so passing by Cayecron joining to the Lordship of Boughrood to Foxholles, and thence by the meare to Footman-y-gog and Llydiat Mayne, from thence by the highway side to Caringkaye, Fynnonynor, and from thence to the brook side to Postey. From thence to the Three Crosses, and following the brook side of Combe Llundeg to Aber to a part of Melisnag called Gay-gennog, and to the middle of Hayne-sye to the Lord's meadows Pule Grattloge, from thence to Kyde Hocking Geruge.”

We have here the following names that we still know: Wye, Leveny or Llynfi, Melynog, and Park Coed-y-bollen; but that is about all, so that it is apparently the Glasbury Lordship, though so corruptly and strangely described.

The usual rights of a manor belonged to this, and are mentioned in the presentment, such as payment of chief rents, heriots, and alienation, and admission fees and fines, forfeitures, &c. The demesne lands of the Castle held by John Gunter on lease were considerable, amounting to 280 acres of arable and 40 acres of meadow, including the Queen's great Broadfide of 97 acres, and the Queen's meade.

It was the custom of this lordship for courts to be held at fixed periods, when on the decease of a tenant of the lord the successor came to do fealty to the lord, and a rod was

given to the new tenant, showing possession, by the Mayor of the Court, when the ceremony of braynte and estimation was concluded. The same custom of using and delivering the rod took place on lands being sold. It was called the livery of the rod.

It was also the custom that the eldest son should inherit his father's lands; if there were no sons, then the daughters equally, and failing sons or daughters, the next heir. The Widow of a tenant was to have one third of any lands her husband possessed during the spousals.

Among the various recommendations which the Jury in their presentment made, is one that every tenant within the lordship, holding any of the demesne lands, or any of his own customary lands adjoining the river Wye, should this side of next Spring plant three rows of osiers—that is of willow trees, alders, or poplars, on the bank of the river for its protection, whichever kind seems best, the osy-yards to be three inches compass, one yard and a half in length, and to be set $\frac{3}{4}$ yard one from the other.

The following particulars in the presentment are at present unintelligible to me :—
“ Within the Tower of ——— is one scyte of a house decayed in the street, one other by the water, one other in the same lane, and one near to the chappell.” Also the whole of the following presentment :—“ Item they say that James John Phe hath incroached the eighth-part of an acre by the old Mylne pound, and there builded a cottage to be seined and set for the lord, and that the Castle and Castle Green from the west style of the churchyard to the bridge end is the lord's demesne.”

Further memorandum of Jury :—“ The Bayliff is charged by the Steward to enclose from the west style of the churchyard of Glasbury to the corner of the great broad field, and to keep all the scite of the lord's mansion with the ground on the back side of the church between the church and the river to the west end of the bridge several to the lord's use, and to set a gate for passage in the highway near to the said church style.”

Item, the Jurors say that the custom is and tyme out of mind, that the Tenants after every change of the Lord wise should pay a Myse of 100s. at three payments three years next after the entry of the new Lord. This Myse they ought to have white bookes, viz., release of all things due to the Lord at and before entry.

The following curious entry relating to bondwomen, in the Presentment of the Jury of 1561, runs as follows :—

“ To the third Article, the said Jurators say that they know nor ever heard there are or ever were any bond or bondwomen belonging to the said Lordship.”

Bondage was a form of slavery, and bondmen in Domesday Book are called *servi*. Some of these were bound to the person of the Lord and his heirs, while in other cases they were belonging to and annexed to the manor, and when a manor was sold, the bond servants passed with the land to the new owner. Those who remember their French school book story “ Le Serf,” will find there related the hardship caused to the serfs or bondmen by the transfers of large French estates.

The same rules applied to bondwomen, who were also called “ Neifs ” (French—naif, naturalis, nativa) and She Villeins. If a bondwoman married a free man, she became free. Anciently lords of manors sold, gave, or assigned their bondmen, bondwomen or neifs freely. You will find reference in various statutes of Edward III., Richard II., and Henry VIII., to bond servants,—and villeinage, or holding bondmen and bondwomen, was not finally abolished until 1660 by 12 Charles II., cap. 24, “ an Act for taking away the court of wards and liveries, and tenures in *capite*, and by knights' service and purveyance ”—in fact, abolishing feudal tenure. Thank heaven we are not going back to those times; and it would seem that even for a hundred years previously to 1561, bond service was stated then to have never been known in this lordship.

Glasbury.

FURTHER NOTES.

Since I wrote last as to Glasbury Manor, and the old Presentment of 1561, I have made a few discoveries of some interest. I think we can make out the boundaries of the Manor pretty nearly, also the site of the Castle and of the old Mill referred to.

The Castle apparently stood in a field near the Wye behind the old Vicarage, called Sally Vawr, and between the Maesllwch Arms and Parkgwynne, and at the Parkgwynne side of the road there are some irregularities in the surface of the meadow, and the ground underneath is said to be full of stones, and at one spot there is a circular low mound, as if it were the remains of a circular tower.

The field, called Sally Vawr, appears to give the name to a small manor, presumably a small manor within that of Glasbury, and Miss Bevan, of Brynrhydd, is the lady of the manor. The manor is styled the manor of Sally Vawr, and is said to have comprised Cwmbach and Ciltwrch.*

If this was the site of the old Castle, it would bring Castle, Vicarage, and the old Church close together, as the 1561 paper describes.

Again, with regard to the old Mill, there are traces of it at Cwmbach, where the old brook must once have flowed, and local people seem to be aware of it. It was called Melin Cwm bach, and is said to have fallen into ruin long before the time the presentment of 1561 was made.

If any old branch of the Wye flowed by Pwllpatty, and close to the north slope of the valley, it is probable that the Cwmbach brook then entered the Wye within 150 yards or so of the old Mill at Cwmbach.

The name of Parkgwynne would seem also to identify the place named as Glasbury Park in the old paper.

Strange, is it not, how quickly things are forgotten, and all traces of such lost. I had a marvellous instance of this, when through some old papers in our family—not very old, 1695—I was able to bring to the knowledge of Mr. Johnson, the town clerk and historian of Hereford, facts as to the wear and mills once on the Wye by the Castle Green, which were otherwise forgotten, and of which he had never heard!

I will conclude with a few further remarks with regard to the possible changes in the course of the Wye at Glasbury.

In very early times I conjecture that the Wye flowed under the southern slope from Pipton downwards, receiving at Aberllynfi, as the name implies, the waters of the Llynfi. In course of time sudden fearful waterspouts, falling either in the Llynfi Valley or in the Felindre Brook, caused a huge mass of debris to be lodged in the Wye. This mass, trees growing upon it, and resisting the force of the Wye, turned that river, or a branch of it, right away to the north side. Naturally the stream would then hug that bank, and cut deeply into the alluvial soil, forming finally a large sweep by Pwllpatty and by the Woodlands again to join the old course of the river south of the old church site.

And now follows the scene which you may witness taking place below Glasbury bridge to-day. The deeper the river cut out the horseshoe at the Woodlands, the greater the pressure of water became at the lower corner by the old church. The local people did what they could by the massive river wall at the Vicarage to prevent it breaking through, but at last it broke through, the forces of nature being too strong, and the river found its way between the old church site and the Vicarage, as we see it to-day.

Now came another natural process. The river relieved, no longer cut deeply into the horseshoe at the Woodlands; it began to silt up there, and that silting up of the bend

was gradually increased, until after the lapse of 200 years the old course has become scarcely traceable.

Clearly in 1561 the river flowed to the south of the old church site, and I think a branch of it at least by Pwllpatty and the Woodlands. In 1667, when the new church was built, the old church was isolated from the Vicarage, and therefore the river broke through in the hundred years subsequent to 1561. As to the very old course of the river by Aberllynfi, and following the Breconshire bank, there is nothing to give us any clue as to the date, though, as I have stated, the old maps (1560—1660) of Speed, Saxton, and Blaeu apparently—it may be wholly in error, and only as a copy of other older maps—mark the course of the Wye by Aberllynfi, and hugging the Breconshire bank.

I am told that even now, if not prevented by weiring, the Wye seems half inclined to try the Pwllpatty and Woodlands course again, and there is little doubt that in the course of ages, historic and prehistoric, the Wye has shaped its course here, there, and everywhere in the soft alluvial deposit, constituting the flat plain between the Breconshire and Radnorshire slopes. It would be very interesting to know, who built the river wall at Parkgwynne! Other conjectures, as to the possible changes in the course of the Wye, will be found at pages 71-2 ante. There is an interesting field open here for the ingenuity of the reader.

Further enquiry leads me to think that the term “stonces” may be derived from the Norman word “estance,” a fish pool, from which comes “stance,” any barrier against water, and our modern “stank.” “Estance” is given in the Latin equivalent “agger aquis oppositus,” a mound opposed to the flow of water.

In a situation like that which the “stonces” hold, forming a delta between the Wye and the Llynfi, one or other of those rivers was constantly in the habit of making inroads, and warping, weiring, and stanking were often needed to preserve the land. The wood near, known as Coed-y-bolen, or the wood of poles, was probably made use of to furnish the necessary stakes for weiring. On further examination of the Presentment of 1561, I find a field described as being in length “from a place called Istance, being the Queen’s meade.”

* This Manor is also called Brinseviok, or Soler Vawr. See Radnorshire Hist. Mem. p. 62.

Glasbury under the Commonwealth.

1650—60.

The Rev. Alexander Griffith had been the Vicar of the Parish from 1839 to 1850, in which latter year the Commissioners under the Commonwealth, for the Propagation of the Gospel—called Propagators—ejected Mr. Griffith from the living either for being a Royalist or for his religious views.

The tithes were then sequestered, and first one Richard Powell, of Penywern, and then Owen Griffith entered into possession of the Vicarage, probably at a salary of £100 a year. Mr. William Jones, of Bucklyn (Buckland) was the sequestrator, and Owen Griffith is said to have received his presentation from Oliver Cromwell, the Protector, in 1658.

On the restoration of Charles II., 1660, the old vicar, the Rev. Alexander Griffith, came by his own again, and one of the first acts he did, as a token of thanksgiving, was to change the site of the parish church from the low flooded ground on the Stonces, and rebuild it as we see to-day on the high ground near the railway station on the right bank of both the Llynfi and the Wye. The following old paper, which I found in Lambeth Palace with others of the same date relating to other sequestered livings in Breconshire, fits in with and explains some of the previous papers relating to Glasbury, and the rebuilding of the Church.

Sequestered Livings in Breconshire, 1650-1652, No. 22, in Lambeth Library.

The Return of the Pettie Constables of Glasbury within the County of Brecon,
20 Aug. 1662.

1. The Vicaridge of Glasbury was accounted to be of ye yearlie value of—100.
2. Alexander Griffith clerk was vicar of the said parish from the yere 1639 untill the seventh day of June 1650 att which day he was eicted.
3. The Commissioners for eicting him were the propagators, viz., John Williams, of Radnorshire; Richard King, John Dautesey, Th. Watkyns, Wm. Watkyns of Shephouse and others.
4. The Sequestrator for the yeares 1650, 1651, 1652, was as we are crediblie informed Wm Jones of Bucklyn, or John Morgan, taylor within the Countie of Bræcon.
5. Their ffarmor or vndertenant for those yeares was Evan Thomas of Glasebury carpenter throwout the whole Parish.
6. In the yeare 1653 being Easter Munday after the expiration of the Act for propagation One Richard Powell of Pen y wern within the County of Radnor and parish of Glasbury entred upon the Vicaridge by power of the said Commissioners wherein he continued sometimes preaching and was accounted among us as vicar untill the yeare 1658 and during those yeares his ffarmors and Agents did sett out the Tiethes belonging to the said Vicaridge.

The said Richard Powell is now dead, his widow is married to one William Phillips. And Richard Powell's son and heir is called Richard Powell, aged about 20 yeares.

7. Owen Griffith clerk was by the Commissioners for approbation 12 Jun 1658 intituled into the said Vicaridge of Glasebury by virtue of a presentation from Oliver, then Protector, being then accounted vacant by the decease of Richard Powell, where he continued as Vicar until his Majesties most happy Restauration, and then our former Vicar Mr. Alex. Griffith re-enjoyed the same.

Old Maps.

Of all the old maps of Breconshire, the best certainly is that of John Speed, published in 1608, and made, it is said, from actual survey on the fair scale of $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles to 1 inch. It gives the hills shaded in, villages, churches, and rivers. I think the map is worth re-producing, because it has a special side plan of the town of Brecon on the scale of 100 paces to 1 inch. And there is shown the Castle with its towers and ramparts, and the wall encircling the town by Watton Mount, and the Captains' Walk, also with its towers and gateways, standing complete. But who is there in the town or country able and public spirited enough to pay the cost? The British Museum authorities will permit the tracing to be made, and probably one of the map makers would produce 500 copies for £10 or £15. Will someone volunteer?

But Christopher Saxton's is even an older map, made from actual survey in 1578, and dedicated to Queen Elizabeth. The scale is smaller than that of Speed, being 5 miles to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches. On this map the mountains are very conspicuous—and Breconshire has a good few—drawn like conical apple dumplings on the sheet. This was the way the

old mappers had of showing height, and you will find Jones in his county map draws the hills much in the same way.

Another old map, as I have told my readers before, is that of John Blaeu, the Dutchman of Amsterdam, published in 1662, and dedicated to Henrietta Maria, widowed and exiled Queen of Charles I. This firm of Blaeu was one of the most eminent of map makers that ever existed. The scale is the same as that of Speed, and possibly it was in the main a copy.

All these three old maps, as you will remember, place Glasbury Church on the left bank of the Wye, and also place the junction of the Llynfi with the Wye as high up as Aberllynfi. Blaeu's map of 1662 was certainly wrong, but whether those of Saxton and Speed were or were not, it is impossible to say, as we do not know the year when the river altered its course and broke through between the Vicarage and the Church.

However, these veteran maps show things of interest, and give some old names now entirely lost. In the parish of Llanwrthwl, there is the well-known rhos saith maen, "Wet Place of the Seven Stones," and all the maps give the name, Jones further drawing little figures of conical stones to represent the Seven. But it is only the old maps that show the important road that led in olden time from Rhayader by the Seven Stones past Llanafan Fawr Church and Aberanell to the well known large upright stone landmark on Maesy-gwaelog Farm near Llanwrtyd. The Seven Stones and this one stone seem to have served as finger posts. On the same important main road the old maps give a place with the curious name of Tulwr Milog, near the Seven Stones, but no such name appears in Jones (who gives very few place names) or on the modern ordnance sheet.

Another road these old maps make a good deal of, is that of the road from Builth to Brecon by the Upper Chapel. Jones gives one place on the mountain as Cwm Awen, while the old maps give it as Cwm Owen, and so does the ordnance map. This is of little moment, perhaps, but the old maps say that near Cwm Owen bridge there was "a causeway called Foes Torr Cengyl." I presume it led up to the bridge of Cwm Owen, but this is the first I have ever heard of this causeway. The meaning of the name would probably be "the ditch of the broken girth." No wonder the old folk made a causeway.

And now I wish to ask my readers, which do they consider to have been the most ancient fenced-in park in the county? Glanusk Park, Llangattock Park, Danypark, Cefnparc? Oh no; all these are modern, and some of them never were really parks at all. Well, you say, Porthamel and Gwernyfed. That is nearer, and both these parks are marked on Bowen's map of 1768. But the oldest park of all is one now quite forgotten except its name, and long disused, that of Parc, Trallong. It is named on these old maps "Hennid Parc," and a pretty little coloured sketch of its encircling palisading is given. Evidently Hennid Parc was then in full and vigorous use, and no such other appears in equal splendour in the whole county. To whom this park then belonged I do not know. Will someone help us to paint again its pristine glory? Jones in his county map does not even mention the place at all, giving only the name of Trallong for the whole district between the Bran and Cilieni streams. The spot was well chosen for its purpose, sunny with ferny banks and undulating ground, and water from the Cilieni stream, if needed. Was it the park of Einon Sais or of Bernard Newmarch, a kind of appanage to the Great Forest? If I were the owner of the Parc farm, I should certainly have a sketch made of the Parc palisading, as it appears in its livery of green in these old maps.

The next reliable map is that published by Bowen in 1768. It is said to have been made from an actual survey by Thomas Kitchin, and is dedicated not to a Queen or ex-Queen, but to one whom my friend Rees Williams would hold in nearly equal esteem, as an untitled Prince, Thomas Morgan, Her Majesty's Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum for the county of Brecon. As a prince should, he patronised map making, and I hope gave Mr. Kitchin, a liberal order. The scale of this map is smaller, than the older ones, being $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles to 1 inch.

It may be stated, that this map for the first time places Glasbury church on the right bank of the Wye, and also gives the names of the owners of some of the county seats, like Jeffreys, for Pencelly Castle (not Abercynrig, as I wrote previously). It also plainly marks one very important roadway of that day, the one leading from Trecastle to Llandoverly over the Trecastle mountain. The map also shows drawn upon it a mountain-gate at that point, and what now bears the name of the Black Cock on the brow of the picturesque Myddfai ridge of the Llandeilo flags, is given as the Heath Cock. The broad tracks on Trecastle mountain, and the deep cut sweep of the ascent by the Heath Cock, clearly show the road must have been once a very important one, and the main thoroughfare from Breconshire to Carmarthenshire. The Cwmydwr road down the valley of the Gwydderig was not made until the last century was well advanced. But why is this mountain gate so markedly given on this map? Was drift toll, do you think, taken here on passing droves of cattle, by some manorial lord or untitled prince?

There are some side notes to this map worth mentioning for the old map makers always throw a little in extra to their maps to embellish, or make them more interesting. They utilized the vacant spaces on the side, or wherever they could find room for a note.

Bowen tells us: "It is said of the Usk that it was famous for producing an abundance of the largest trout, and of the Wye, that it contained plenty of salmon and other fish"—the old story, in fact, of Giraldus Cambrensis over again, "Usk famous for trout, Wye for salmon." Marginal notes to the map also record that in 1690 half of the town of Builth was consumed by fire; also that a large wooden bridge crossed the Wye there.

Another note states that the First Earl of Brecknock was James Butler, Duke of Ormond, who died in 1688. He was succeeded by his grandson, James, who died in exile in Spain in 1746, attainted, and stripped of all his titles. I notice also on this map "Pont Gwenllian" mentioned. The name is not known now, but possibly it is the same as our Pontgwyllm!

Sale of Crown Manors, &c., in Breconshire.

1799, Feb. 12.—Seven mills within the Lordship of Brecon, called the Forest Mills, the place of the feeding of swine in the Forest of Devynnock, and a fishery, with 0a. 3r. 28p. of land (being then in lease to Penry Williams, Esq., at the yearly rent of £88 10s. 9d.), was sold by private contract to John Powell, gent., for £1,008 5s. 6d. See Par. Return 1831, No. 128, p. 416.

1817, May 28.—A fee farm rent for Uske Mill (at Newton Weir, Brecon,) of £6 was sold to William Gwyn, gent., for £124 16s. 0d. See Appendix to Report III. of Commissioners of Woods and Forests, p. 54.

1817, June 12.—The Manor of Penkelly Wallensis, with the chief rents and all rights and royalties thereto belonging, amounting to £3 19s. 5½d. per annum, was sold by tender to Charles C. Clifton, Esq., for £425. See Par. Return, as above.

1818, May 28.—Henry Fleming Lee, Viscount Hereford, premier Viscount of England, for part of Llanigon Rectory, valued at £4 13s. 4d. a year gave the sum of £118. See Appendix to Report III., p. 54.

1820, Feb. 7.—An allotment, containing 13,760 acres, in lieu of the agistment of the forest of Brecon, part of the lordship of Brecon, and other rights therein, was sold by tender to John Stewart, merchant, for £15,000. See Par. Return, 1831, No. 128, p. 416.

1820, Feb. 19.—The right to the coal and minerals within an allotment, containing 1,766a. 2r. 3p. was sold by tender to Archibald Christie, Esq., for £200. See Par. Return, as above.

1820, Feb. 19.—The right to tithes over the allotment, purchased by him, was sold by tender to John Stewart, for £1,390. See Par. Return, as above.

1824, March 31.—The fee farm rent of £7 for the Little Forest of Brecon, was sold to John Christie, Esq., for £168. See Appendix to Report V. of Commissioners of Woods and Forests, p. 99.

1827, April 14.—The fee farm rent of £6 10s. 0d. for the Manor of Pepperton, was sold to Thomas Wood, Esq., for £145 12s. 0d. See Appendix to Report VI. of Commissioners, p. 182.

1828, March 4.—The Lordship or Manor of Hay and Wallensis, with the quit rents and manorial rights thereto belonging, with 71a. 2r. 0p. of land, was sold by public auction for £2,100, to Henry, Viscount Hereford. See Par. Return, 1831, No. 128, p. 416.

The Sales and Grants made in the previous century and previously, I have not yet been able to obtain a list of, except the one of the Forest Mills in 1799.

Henry VII.

I have always understood that King Henry VII. (then Earl of Richmond) on his way from Milford Haven to Bosworth, in Leicestershire, where he fought and won the great battle of that name against Richard III. in 1485, stayed one night at Court Henry, near Cilcwm, in Carmarthenshire. As I remember the house, it was a pretty old thatched farmhouse near the corner of the road between the village of Cilcwm and Neuadd Fawr, and it belonged for generations to the Jones-Lloyd or Lord Overstone's family, I believe the house is now pulled down.

A few days ago I was shown by the Adjutant of the Yeomen of the Body Guard at St. James's Palace some of the very halberds, or battle-axe headed javelins used by Henry's troops at Bosworth. They resemble in shape the javelins of our Sheriff's men at assize time, but are much larger, being fully twelve inches across the double blade, and broad in proportion. The shafts were eight or nine feet long, and one of their chief purposes was, when planted against the right foot and resting on the left knee, to resist the charge of cavalry. The head also acted as a hook to pull a horseman off his horse.

Colonel Henwell, the adjutant, is possessed of a great deal of information about the King's Yeomen of the Guard, and is now quietly placing it together. Among other things he told me that the list he has gives four Lloyds that fought for King Henry at Bosworth. Their names were Piers Lloid, to whom the King gave as his reward the custody of St. Augustine's of Canterbury; Owen Lloid, who had a grant of the Castle at Cardigan; Morris Lloid, to whom was given the lands of Walker of Wydegdda (the list is imperfect here, a part being missing); and, lastly, David Lloyd, who was not so fortunate. For some offence he was imprisoned in the Tower of London for eight weeks. All these men were present, so the paper says, "at our triumph."

I was hoping to find the name of Thomas Lloid, the first Lord Lieutenant of Breconshire, on the list, but it is apparently not there. Perhaps he stayed at home, while some of his brothers went with Henry when he marched through South Wales. I did not expect to find John Lloid of Towy and Porthycerwys, his son (whose effigy is in Builth Church), as he could not have been born then—i.e., in 1485—as he died in 1585, or a hundred years later. And this John, so the brass plate there tells us, flourished much later in the succeeding reigns of Henry VIII. and Elizabeth.

I think it is generally known that Henry VII., Henry VIII., and Queen Elizabeth were very partial to the Welsh, and placed them in posts of trust and honour.

Some of these notes may set some of my younger readers thinking and studying history for themselves. I believe Breconshire to be one of the most interesting counties in England and Wales, and though much of its history can be learnt from Theophilus Jones great work, there is still a very wide field open for profitable research.

Crosses in Breconshire.

A careful examination of the ordnance map of the county gives the following place names in which groes, croes, or crwys (Welsh for cross) form a part :—

1. Maes y groes—or the field of the cross—in the parish of Llanavanfawr. It is near Rhos y capel, where there are several cross roads, and also a large stone. We know that in Roman Catholic days the church at Llanavan was a kind of head centre for that district. I think this would be a wayside cross for public worship.

2. Porth y crwys—the gateway of the cross—in the parish of Llanynis, and very near the right bank of the Irvon. This is the place where the John Lloid lived, whose full length effigy is still to be found in Builth church. We here find crwys instead of croes, a pretty variation of the name. Apparently, on the entrance gateway to the mansion a cross was fixed.

This John Lloid, said to be of Towy, was squire to the body and servant to Queen Elizabeth, and had also fought for Henry VIII., her father, at Montreuil and Boulogne in France.

3. Cross ynn—the inn at the cross—in the parish of Llangammarch (division of Penbualt) just at the foot of the steep road (Troed rhiw) leading up from Llandulas Church to the top of Epynt, the old Black Cattle track. Near Cross ynn was once a farm called Llan y crwys, or the enclosure (possibly church) of the cross, but which now is fallen down. This would seem to point to a cross for worship being placed there.

4. Mynydd bwlech y groes, or the cross of the pass of the mountains, in the parish of Llandilo fan.

5. Clydd bwlech y groes, or the sheltered place by the cross of the pass. This is part of the mountain named in No. 4, and very near, and probably gives its name to the mountain. Whether there was a cross for worship placed up here on the mountain range, or the name simply means crossing or cross roads, it is impossible to say. I am doubtful whether “clydd” should be the prefix to this name, and rather think it should be clawdd—ditches, after the British camp close by, or possibly clwydd, a gate, as clwydd-watch, the gate of the watch, a mixed Welsh and English name, is also near. It is certainly very strange that this mountain bears the distinctive name of croes. Of course we know that the marked division line between the old red sandstone and the upper silurian runs right through the Epynt range, and croes may have some geological meaning in this instance. Or it may simply denote an important road *across* the mountains.

6. Croes Howell, or the cross of Howell, in the parish of Llanigon, and which is an old friend of ours. It was placed on the side of the main road leading from Fforddfawr on the Wye, over the passes of the Black Mountains to Llanthony Abbey. There appear to have been two places thus named, and they were almost certainly crosses for worship. Who Howel was I am in doubt, but possibly the same that gave the name to Craig-Hywel, our Crickhowel, which across the mountains is quite near.

7. Glasbury cross. There was once a cross in the churchyard here, probably removed from the old church on the stones. Lord Hereford tells me that he remembers seeing some fragments of it. Richard Symons, in his diary of the marches of the royal army during the great civil war, refers to the numerous and perfect crosses in Breconshire.

8. Croes y goegir, or Garter cross, near Tregoyd, is now called Arbor Oak, Lord Hereford informs me.

9. Croes llechau, or the cross of the flat stones, in the parish of Brynllys, not far from Porthamal. Jones, in the Volume II. of his History, gives, as a very pretty vignette, these large stones with a fine blossoming thorn tree overhanging them. I have made inquiries, and I am informed the place knoweth them no more—stones, cross, and thorn tree have been improved away.

10. Bryn-y-groes, or the bank of the cross, the name of a farm once very near Croes-llechau, and probably hence deriving its name. It is situate near that banky wood with the puzzling name, Baradwys.

11. Brecon Cross. I believe a cross once stood on the centre of the Bulwark, just where the Wellington monument is placed.

12. Groes-ffordd, or the cross of the road, in the parish of Llanhamlach, near Llech-fan (the large flat stone on the top of the hill). It may mean here either a crossing or cross roads, or a cross for worship placed there. No doubt a very important road ran that way once, being the Roman road from Gaer (Aberyskir) to Gaer (Cwmdu), keeping the high ground along the Llechfaen, Manest, and Allt-yr-ys-grin banks very much in the line Sir A. Binnie wished to convey the Usk water to Llangorse Lake. In fact it was one of the mainroads up the Usk Valley, and I am inclined to think the name denotes a cross for worship.

13. Derwen-y-groes, or the oak tree of the cross, is situate in the parish of Llanvigan, where the road divides, one part leading to Talybont, and the other to the Aber. Probably there was a cross for worship fixed here. This road is also a very ancient one, up the vale of Usk from Crickhowell to Brecon. Near the Dyfnant we have "Spiteful Inn" (Latin, *hospitium*, same derivation as Llanspythid), the ruins of which I have often seen, and where an ancient roadway led down to the island in the Usk, and so across to the Penmiarth side. You find the road continuing all up the valley past Llanthetty, Talybont, Derwen-y-groes, Llanfrynach, where it followed the present footpath through the fields, and then the short lane nearly to Velindre Mill. Subsequently it passed through the Dinas woods by the limestone quarries, with a branch down to the ford at Rhydymaen, right on to the Little Green, entering Llanfaes just as the present Dinas drive does. This road, with its deeply worn bed, has every appearance of being a very ancient highway, perhaps 2000 years old, if not more. I am inclined to think that, having regard to the antiquity of this road, a cross for worship was placed some time or other at the parting of the ways at Derwen-y-Groes, and if made of wood, may have been simply nailed to the oak tree standing there.

14. Croes, or Groes—The Croes, is the name of a farm in the parish of Cantref, belonging to the Marquis of Camden. It is also called Tir-y-croes, the land of the cross. Please, readers, take the C as the first letter in pronouncing the name. Croes sounds softly and mellifluously, but Groes sounds hard and coarse. This farm is on the side of a very old road leading from Brecon to Cantref Church, and I feel sure a cross for worship once stood there. I have had some fun over this name. One person said it was given because of a cross road, and another said it was because some of the fields of the farm were separated from the farmhouse by the road, and were across the road! What next, I thought. I hope the Agent of the Marquis of Camden will in future enter the name of this farm on the rent-book as Croes—or the Cross. I have little doubt that a cross, it may have been either of wood or stone, once stood and was worshipped there, and on each successive May day its steps were strewn with garlands of butter-cups, blue bells, and daisies.

Crown Property in Breconshire in the Reign of Elizabeth.

CASTLES, MANORS, LANDS, FORESTS, MILLS, AND RECTORIES.

Few persons realize how great were the Crown's interests in Breconshire at the close of the reign of Henry VIII., and through the reigns of Edward VI., Philip, and Mary and Elizabeth. The forfeiture of the large possessions of the Duke of Buckingham, and of the Earl of March, and the seizure of the property of Brecon Priory, and of the Priors of Clifford, Dore, and Much Malvern made the Crown the owner of most of the manors, and of much of the land in the county. It may be said, speaking roughly, that Lords Camden, Glanusk, and Tredegar, with Mr. Gwynne Holford, are the possessors now through grant or purchase of the bulk of this quondam Crown property, if we except the Great Forest of Brecon, which has been specially dealt with by Inclosure Acts. Another remark has to be made, The Manors of the Crickhowell Hundred, Crickhowell and Tretower, in no way appear in the list, they have a history of their own.

The forfeited Estates of Edward Duke of Buckingham were as follows:—Brecon Castle and Lordship, Demesne lands of Brecon Lordship, Waste lands in Burgh of Brecon, Cantercelly Manor, Cantercelly Forest, The Great Forest of Brecon, The Seven Mills in the Great Forest, viz., Devynnock, Llywell, Cray, Ystradfelte, Senny, Glyntawe, Pwll Coch; The Fisheries in the Neath and Tawe rivers, Y Troesgoed in Ystradfelte, The Manor of Llywel, Demesne lands in Llywel, Tir y Bedlwyne demesne lands in Devynnock, Brecon Little Forest, Ibebillwa, a parcel of land in Brecon lordship formerly belonging to the Abbey of Strata Florida, Penkelly Castle, English Penkelly Manor, Welsh Penkelly Manor, Welsh Hay, or Haya Wallensis Manor and Glynbwch, Brentles Castle and Manor, Poole Manor, service of the tenants of Battel.

The Manor of Alexanderstone, Bogheled or Buchlyd (Buckland) Forest, Bennye Wood, Kaye Newydd (?), Piperton, Llangoyd, Brynich—demesne lands in.

Forfeited Estates of the Earl of March: Dynas Lordship, Dynas Forest, Lands in Talgarth and Llangorse, Mere or Mara, Blaenllevenny, Builth Castle, Builth Lordship and Burgh, Tallawayn Forest, Llanddewirewm Mill, Llanvair Mill, Llangwenwell Mill, Demesne lands in Builth Manor, Poole Manor in Merthyr Cynog (?)

Forfeited Estates of Brecon Priory: Demesne lands in the lordship of Brecon, Usk Mill, Divers Messuages and lands in Brecon, Hodney Mill, Llanvaies Mill, Held Mill and Battell Chapel, Battell Manor and Grange, Sub Prior's lands in the Manor of Monkton, Tir y Prior's land in Devynnock, Tithes of Ystradfelte, Brecon Rectory, Devynnock Rectory, Builth Rectory, Talgarth Mara Rectories and Chapel, Chapel of Llanvihangel Carreg, Tithes in Hay.

Forfeited Estates of Clifford Priory: Rectory of Brentles, Rectory of Llandevelle, Messuages in Brentles Vill.

Forfeited Estates of Malvern Much Monastery: Possessions in Brecknock Lordship and Town and elsewhere.

Forfeited Estates of Dore Monastery: Gwenddwr, Tretower (?) Llanegwit (?) Chapel and Tithes, also Gwenddwr Lordship.

Other Escheated Lands, &c.: Burgess Mill (Brecon), Land in Llandevellog, Tredustan Mill, Tredustan lands, Glasbury Manor, Part of Strata Florida Abbey land, Tir y Mew, Lloydartha in Llangammarch, Haya-Parish—possessions of Free Chapel of St. John's, Chantry lands in Brentles and Llanigon, Chantry lands in Devynnock, 4 messuages and lands in Estradvelte and Cantref.

Those must have been curious times to live in when the Crown was almost the sole great owner in Breconshire. It must have been a great point to keep in well with

Royalty, when so much depended on Royal favour. The Auditor of the Crown, who came down periodically to receive the rents, was of course the great man, and previously to his coming a printed Proclamation of portentous size was posted in all Market Towns, requiring attendance of Mayors, Sheriffs, Stewards of Manors, Woodwards, Bailiffs, Farmers and other his Majesty's officers and subjects to tender their duties to His Majesty. One of these Proclamations—a comparatively modern one—it is dated 1786, and signed Thomas Johnes, Auditor—is now before me. It measures 1ft. 9in. by 1ft. 3in., and is adorned at the head with a large engraving of the Royal Arms, with Crown at the top, and the mottos, "Dieu et mon droit" and "Honi soit qui mal y pense," and flags, cannon, tridents, and spears projecting at either end. It is dated June 26, and the day of Audit was stated to be October 30th and at the Golden Lion Hotel. So that everyone had at least ample time to prepare for so important an event. I do not know whether the Auditor gave receipts generally in Latin to the tenants in Wales, but I have one printed receipt, dated 1763, in Latin, signed Thomas Wynne, Auditor, giving Jacobus Williams, Vicecomes, his "quietus" for the payment of £42 due to the Crown. And the Escheator was a well known officer, of whom everyone went in dread, especially those who omitted to go to Church regularly. However the James' and the Charles' let slip most of the property during their reigns, and Geo. III. completed its dispersion, so that when our late Queen came to the throne, the Crown had not a Castle, Forest or Manor, or even a square yard of ground in the county to call its own, except that possibly the Crown retained, as it is thought by some to retain still the Fee, but only as a bare Trustee, of the 17-000 acres comprising the Commoners' Allotment of the Great Forest of Brecknock.

Wilkins' Old Bank, Brecon.

SKETCH OF ITS HISTORY.

This long-established Bank having been amalgamated with Lloyds Bank, Limited, and having practically ceased to exist after a flourishing career of about 120 years, it may be of interest to give some particulars concerning its formation and management, especially as the partners were throughout local gentlemen known and respected in our county.

The Bank was established in 1778, and the first partners were—Walter Wilkins, Maesllwch; Walter Jeffreys, Priory Hill; Jeffreys Wilkins, The Priory; William Williams, Brecon (known as "Merchant Williams.") Walter Wilkins and Jeffreys Wilkins were brothers and the sons of John Wilkins, deputy Prothonotary of the Court of Great Sessions of Brecon, by Sybil, his wife, the daughter of Walter or Watkin Jeffreys of the Priory. The Walter Jeffreys, the member of the firm, was the son of another member of the Jeffreys family and nephew to Sybil. Except therefore "Merchant Williams," it was a family party.

It appears by an entry in the New Testament of Frances Wilkins, daughter of William Wilkins (the Prothonotary 1800-12), that "Walter Wilkins went for India 20 Jan. 1759," and there, according to common report, he quickly amassed a considerable fortune. With some of this, no doubt, he helped to found the Bank, and his proved enterprise and ability contributed greatly to its success. This Walter Wilkins purchased about that time the Maesllwch estate from Sir Humphrey Howorth, and became subsequently Member of Parliament for Radnorshire. He married Catherine Augusta Hayward, and died at a good

old age in 1828. He was succeeded by his son, known as Walter Wilkins, the younger, who had married the Honourable Catherine Devereux, daughter of Viscount Hereford. He died in 1831, and was succeeded by his son, Walter Devereux Wilkins, who married Miss Julia Collinson. The last named Walter Wilkins died in 1840, and then for the first time since its formation in 1778, the interest of the Maesllwch branch of the Wilkins family in the Bank ceased, the capital invested was withdrawn, and the connexion severed. The Wilkins families of Maesllwch, Maesderwen, and elsewhere changed their name to De Winton in 1839.

But we must turn back to 1808, when John Parry Wilkins, the eldest son of Jeffreys Wilkins, of the Priory, and afterwards of Maesderwen (one of the four original partners) joined the Firm. Changes soon came in the Bank, Walter Jeffreys, the possessor of a large landed estate in Breconshire, died intestate in 1811, Jeffreys Wilkins, then of Maesderwen, died in 1817, and "Merchant" Williams about the same period. And thus it came about that in 1820 the only remaining partners in the Bank were the old Walter Wilkins, of Maesllwch, and his son, Walter, and John Parry Wilkins, of Maesderwen. The latter after his father's death became the acting manager, having as early as 1820 the late Mr John Evans, of Wheat Street, as the trusted cashier. I have a letter from Mr. J. Parry Wilkins from the old Hummums Hotel, London, where he was detained on business, and dated 1820, asking a friend at Brecon to "tell Evans to let me know frequently how things go on at the Bank," and I have also a deposit receipt to a customer of 10th February, 1821, signed "For Wilkins & Company Jno. Evans." This proves the connexion of the late Mr. John Evans with the firm to have commenced early in the last century.

I think about that time, or it may have been a little later, a fresh deed of partnership was entered into, and apparently the capital, apart from "rest account," was not then more than £30,000. And on the important event happening in 1826 of Mr. J. Parry Wilkins being asked by the Bank of England to go to Swansea to establish a Branch of their Bank, and which he consented to do, it was arranged between the partners that Mr. John Evans should be general manager of the Bank at Brecon under Mr. Parry Wilkins' superintendence. This arrangement did not last long, as owing to the death of his two partners, old Mr. Wilkins in 1828 and his son in 1831, the return of Mr. Parry Wilkins to assume immediate personal control of the Brecon Bank became necessary. It had been a great compliment to his Banking knowledge to have been asked to undertake so responsible a duty by the Bank of England, and no doubt Mr Parry Wilkins was enabled thereby to become familiar with the rules of management of the greatest Bank in the world. In 1835, I think, John Jeffreys, the eldest son of John Parry Wilkins, became a partner in the Bank for a few years, and then retired. Otherwise the Bank continued its even course with Mr. John Parry Wilkins as managing partner, and Mr John Evans as cashier and confidential adviser up to 1840.

In that year, on the death of Walter Devereux De Winton, the grandson of Walter Wilkins, of Maesllwch, one of the original partners, and the withdrawal of the capital of the family of Maesllwch from the concern, it became necessary to reconstruct the Bank, if it were to be continued.

It was a time of some anxiety, no doubt, and the sole remaining partner, Mr. Parry DeWinton, who had long ranked as an able banker and held a high position in the county, proved equal to the occasion. He was able to add to the firm the names of John Jones, of Glanhonddu; Samuel Church, of Ffrwdgrech; David Evans, of Merthyr; and John Evans, of Brecon, the latter being the trusted official of the Bank, each bringing a considerable local influence, as well as fresh capital. Mr. Church appears to have died the very same year, and then Mr. Parry DeWinton's third son, William, was taken in as partner in his place.

Mr. J. Parry De Winton died in 1864, and of the recent history of the firm most of us know a little. Apparently the great bankers who have successively ruled and led that firm were the first Walter Wilkins, of Maesllwch, and his brother Jeffreys, then John Parry DeWinton, and lastly Mr. John Evans. This is purely surmise on our part, as of the history

of the branches of the Bank at Merthyr, Cardiff and Carmarthen we have no knowledge. Be this as it may, as far as we do know—and our knowledge extends back for 50 years, and much longer, as derived from others—the conduct of the firm has throughout been of a high and honorable character. While large landed estates and great fortunes have been acquired by the successive partners in the Bank previously to 1840 and since behind the bank counter, these have not been obtained by usurious interest charged or harsh treatment of their customers, but by the exercise of unflagging industry, ability, and unchallenged integrity. Whenever times of difficulty came, as they must have come now and again in a Bank's life of nearly 120 years, those were met with sound judgment and unflinching courage, and the danger of the passing financial storm successfully surmounted. High credit and high character ever stood the firm in good stead in the country side, as well as in the great financial world.

A few additional notes will be interesting. The money-making career of this Bank seems to have been one of unbroken success, and you have only to look through the County to see proof of it in the mansions built or purchased, and the large estates acquired through its power. And even then we have to except the important landed property of Walter Jeffreys, which is no longer recognizable, having been dispersed on his intestacy happening in 1811. Though they financed the Plymouth Iron Works, which owed them for many years a standing debt of £30,000, and were obliged to foreclose on the Clydach Iron Works and also on those at Hirwain, the Bank came to no harm. In those early days there were no rival establishments at Brecon, because we can hardly account George North's note issue as more than that of the Whiteley of the day, and not as of a regular Bank, and the modern system of paying interest on current balances was unheard of. I rather think there was more money then about Breconshire than now among the gentry and farmers. The price of wool was then high, rents were high, and the price of agricultural produce generally ranked higher, with the exception of meat, which was about the same price per pound as it is to-day. And in those days a fine oak tree—and there were many of them in the County then—sold for as high a price as £9.

The original partners in the Bank were evidently go-ahead people, and supported every new County project. You find their names as subscribing £11,000 to the Brecon and Abergavenny Canal Company in 1793, and Walter Jeffreys was the Chairman through the very trying time that preceded the opening of the Canal to Brecon in 1801. Subsequently you find the names of one or more of the Firm, as subscribing largely to the Hay Tramway, the Brecon Boat Company, and later to the Brecon Gas Company. Doubtless the accounts of those concerns were kept at their Bank, and so it all helped business. And of course they were Bankers to the Court of Quarter Sessions, to the Turnpike Road Trustees—great men in those days, to the Commissioners of the Great Forest, and probably to many other smaller County authorities. Their original capital was, I believe, small, and from some figures in my possession I have put it at only £30,000. This was in 1825 or thereabouts, but probably it was the amount of "free capital" only, and that the veteran banker, the old Walter Wilkins, had then taken to himself personally some of the chief overdrawn, though secured, accounts, for the express purpose of lessening the liabilities of the Bank. The authorised issue of the Bank in Notes was £68,271.

In 1840, however, the great development of the Bank took place, and several new branches were opened and more business taken, the capital having been much increased by the contributions of the new partners. And I am informed that when the transference to Lloyds' took place the other day, the Banking Capital had grown to £165,000, with a large "rest" in addition. There was one serious crisis which the Bank passed safely through, that of the failure of Overend, Gurney & Co., who had been the Bank's discount house for a long series of years. To expect a house of such standing to fail was to suppose something as likely to happen as the failure of the Bank of England itself!

I have a distinct recollection of the two veterans of the Bank in modern times, now deceased. Mr John Parry De Winton was a short agile man, full of sparkling life and boundless energy, and his hospitality, kindness, and geniality were known throughout the country side. The annual celebration of his birthday by a picnic to the top of the Beacons

was a happy time long to be remembered. He was especially quick on his feet, and constantly walked from Maesderwen to the Bank by my old home at Dinas, and when quite an old man he offered to run my father, who was 15 years younger, a race, and I believe he would have won. Quickness of movement is no slight advantage in the race of life! His favourite outdoor wrap was a long plaid shawl, becomingly arranged round the waist, and crossed over the shoulders.

The other veteran was Mr. John Evans. He was a short man, very quick and firm on his feet, with good fresh colour, shaggy eyebrows, and strong grey eye that went through you at a glance. You hardly passed the old door of the Bank looking towards Ship Street without seeing him on the steps earnestly talking to some farmer about something that concerned them,—the price of oats it may have been. All the farmers for ten miles round knew him, and he knew them by name, and all about them. Such a man was a fortune to any Bank, and his connexion with it in one way or another had lasted for 60 years! Do you think the old man ever took holidays! Never probably!

I am rather sorry the days of the old private Banks have gone, and among them at last, that of Wilkins and Company.

Perhaps we may some day see established Co-operative Banks by the people and for the people; if such had been established in 1778 and had been managed as well as the Brecon Old Bank, the accumulated wealth of the County would have reached a marvellous sum, and the pauperism of the aged at least would never have existed.

Compulsory Attendance at Church in Breconshire in 1687--Jas. II.

[Page 10 of the County Quarter Sessions book of Orders, Vol. 1. From 1686 to 5th October, 1713.]

Com. Brecon, 1687.—Ad generalem sessionem pacis Domini Regis tenendum apud Brecon, in et pro Comitatu eodem duodecimo die Januarii Anno Jacobi Scotiæ nunc Angliæ primo coram Thomas Walker, Marmaduke Gwynne, Edward Jones, John Steadman, Richard Jeffreys et alii justiciarii ad pacem in eodem comitatu conservandum.

[TRANSLATION.]

At the General Session of the Peace of our Lord the King, held at Brecon, in and for the same county, on the 12th day of January, in the 1st year of James of Scotland, now of England. Before etc., and other justices for preserving the peace in the same county.

Various entries are made of offences against the law and of complaints respecting the inequality of rates, the parishes being set out by name. Also orders were made with regard to bridges and sundry county payments. One item under the head of Llangamarch (Llangammarch) is noticeable "whereas it appeared unto this Court that Daniel William doth keep a disorderly ale house, ordered that the ale house of the said Daniel William be

suppressed." In the parish of Gwenddwr, John Meredith and John Bevan were presented for being badgers without a license. Thomas Prosser was presented for selling ale without a license, and for keeping of a gun to destroy the game. Also a number of men were presented for encroaching several acres of land, and erecting cottages on the common land of the Forest of Dynas, in the Parish of Talgarth.

Then follows this most singular Presentment :

"THE FOLLOWING WERE PRESENTED FOR NOT COMING TO CHURCH FOR THREE SUNDAYS LAST PAST, NAMELY :—

Penderyn.—John Thomas, Elinor Thomss, John Lewis, David Thomas, Thomas Lewis	} For the above offence.
Llywell.—Thomas Pugh and Elinor uxor ejus (his wife)	} Pro consimili (For the very like)
Llangynidr.—Thomas Prosser Howell, de Llangynidr; Thomas John William, de eadem; Evanus Powell, et Maria uxor ejus; Ludovicus Prytherch, Thomas David, et Maria uxor ejus; John David, Thomas Williams, Anna Watkins, Thomas Prosser, et Margaretta, uxor ejus; William John et Jana, uxor ejus, Anna Price, Thomas Prosser, et Jana, uxor ejus; Thomas John Walter, et Jana uxor ejus, Thomas William et uxor, William Watkin de eadem, Matilda Edmund, Matilda James, Maria, uxor Jenkin Lewis, Evanus John...	} pro. consi.
Garthbrengy.—Howellus Thomas et Anna, uxor ejus.....	pro. consi.
Llandefaelog.—William Pritchard.....	pro. consi.
Llanywern.—John Havard.....	pro. consi.
Merthyr.—John David, Ellinora uxor Morgan David.....	pro. consi.
Duffryn Honddu.—John David, John Morgan, Gladissa Morgan	pro. consi.
Yscirfawr.—Ludovicus Powell	pro. consi.
Talachddu.—Jane uxor Thomas, David Williams, Richard Thomas Pugh, Evan Phillip David, Margaretta David, Eliz. Thomas	pro. consi.
Llanfigan.—William Howell, Abrahamus Morgan et uxor, Margaretta Anthony, Ludovicus David, John ap John Morgan, Evanus John, ex uxor, Richardus Bevan, et uxor, John Jones, Hugo Bevan, John Bevan, et uxor, Watkinus Thomas, et uxor, John David John, Thomas Lewis	} pro. consi.
Vaynor.—Thomas John Watkin, et Gwenlliana, uxor ejus, Richardus Robert et Gwenlliana, uxor ejus, Meredithus Wm. Richard, Richardus Morgan, Richardus ap John et Matilda, uxor ejus, David Richard et Gwenlliana, uxor ejus, Margaretta Rees, Margaretta Meredith	} pro. consi.
Llandetty.—David Richard, Ludovicus William, William Thomas, John Howell, Stephanus Howell, Maria Howell, Gwalt ap John, John ap John, Agnes William, Johanna Gunter, Susannah uxor Thomas John, Richardus Howell.....	} pro. consi.
Llanfrynach.—John Morgan, et uxor	pro. consi.
Llangammarch.—David John, Ellinor Pugh, Margaretta Prytherch.....	pro. consi.
Llandewi-cwm.—Anna William vidua, Rogerus Prosser, et Sarah uxor ejus	pro. consi.
Llanganten Parish.—Howellus David, Ludovicus David	pro. consi.
Llysdinam.—Thomas Evans, et uxor	pro. consi.

Llangynidr.—Thomas Powell, Watkin John William, et uxor, Maria Jones, Johanna Jones, Alicia Llewellyn, John Wm. Lewis, Matilda Jones, Thomas Prosser, jun., et uxor, John Watkins, et uxor, Catherina Williams, Anna uxor Thomas Watkins, Phillipus Powell David Watkins	pro. consi.
Cwmdu.—Thomas Lawrence, Maria Lawrence, Sussannah Edward, Phillipus William, Arthur Prosser, Janetta, uxor ejus, Jacobus David et Catherina, uxor ejus, Watkins William et Elliura, uxor ejus	pro. consi.
Llangattock juxta Crickhowell.—Thomas John, Elizabeth John, Jana uxor Rogeri Meredith, Thomas John, Janetta uxor Rogeri Meredith	pro. consi.
Llanbedr.—William Gwilym et Maria uxor ejus, Anna James	pro. consi.
Llangenny.—Sarah Herbert, Jana Thomas, Jannetta Thomas.....	pro. consi.
Llanelly.—David Price, et Anna uxor ejus, Rogerus Morgan, John Spencer, Catherina Edwards	pro. consi.
Devynock.—Ludovicus Powell, Ludovicus Powell, junr., Elizabeth David, Gwenllian Powell, Jannetta Powell, Ellinora Havard, Gwenlliana David, Alicia David, Margaretta John, William Powell, Matilda Lewis, Eleanor, David, Agnes Llewellyn de Glyn, Thomas, William Thomas, Thomas Ap Thomas, Agnes uxor Watkin, Priscilla Watkin, Maria Watkin, Gwenllian Watkyn de Mascarr, Sarah Watkin, Priscilla Richard, Isabella Richard, Maria Richard, Isabella Howell, Anna Penry, Williamus Powell, Gwenlliana Powell	pro. consi.
Llanspyddid.—Priscilla Lewis	pro. consi.
Battle.—Rogerus Powell et Ellinora uxor ejus, Anna uxor William de eadam, Richardus William et Janetta uxor ejus, Johanna uxor Thomas William, Richardus Thomas, Williamus Thomas, Thomas David, Margaretta uxor William, Matilda uxor Thomas	pro. consi.
Talgarth.—Williamus Watkin, meyrish, Margaretta William, Richardus et uxor, Thomas Watkin, et uxor, David Williams, et uxor, Elizabeth Pro-ser, Phillipus Thomas et uxor, Wm. Prosser, et uxor, Thomas Watkins, et uxor, William Pritchard, Ludovicus John Phillips, et uxor, Joanna Thomas, Catherine Williams vidua (widow), Willielmus David, Richardus de Thomas Prese	pro. consi.
Borough of Hay.—Jacobus Hughes et Maria uxor ejus, Priscilla uxor Mathei Parry de eadem, Abya Watkins, Elizabeth Gorson, Janetta Lewis	pro. consi.
Hay Parish.—John Price, Catherine Price, Jacob Parry	pro. consi.
Llanfihangel.—Willielmus John, Matilda Howell, Matilda Thomas, Janetta Thomas	pro. consi.
Llandifalle.—Margaretta Herbert, Maria uxor Jacobi Price, Gwenlliana uxor Davidi Lewis, Elizabetha Thomas, Watkins William, Elizabetha uxor John Havard.....	pro. consi.
Glasbury.—David Preece et Maria uxor ejus, William Jenkin, Margaretta uxor John Woodford, Thomas Vaughan et Elizabeth uxor ejus, Carolus Lloyd et Fortuna uxor ejus, Ellinora Watkins, Maria John, Anna Lewis	pro. consi.

Llangorse.—Walterus Price et Margaretta uxor ejus, Williamus John et Catherina uxor ejus, William John Taylor	pro. consi.
Llanigon.—Watkinus Lewis, Willielmus Miles, Thomas Parry, David William Prosser, John George, Anna Gunter, Joanna Gunter, Thomas David.	pro. consi.
Bronllys.—John Powell	pro. consi.
Crickadarn.—William Jenkin, Maria Dunn.	pro. consi.
Llandhue.—Elizabeth uxor Williami Awbrey, Richardus Awbrey, Wm. Awbrey, jun.	pro. consi.
Gwenddwr.—Thomas Powell, Catherina Powell.	pro. consi.
Llanigon.—Maudlena uxor Ricardl James, Margaretta uxor Thomas Parry, Alicia uxor William Watkin, Elizabeth Awbrey, Thomas David	pro. consi.

It will be found that in these presentments about 265 names are given, and 39 parishes mentioned. Apparently the persons presented were well known in their respective parishes, as no other address is given. Probably at some ensuing sessions the church defaulters in the remaining parishes were presented to be dealt with by the court. It was rather too strong an order to bring up all the offenders in the county in one batch.

What was the history of all this, which sounds very much like persecution? Yes, and so it was, but mainly for the purpose of putting down Popery. Compulsion came in at the Reformation on purpose to uphold the Protestant faith and keep people in the right way. In Henry VIII's reign refusing to receive the sacrament was first made subject to fine or imprisonment, and a second offence was felony and death, and involved forfeiture of lands and goods.

Those who having no lawful excuse absented themselves from the parish Church, were in the time of Elizabeth fined twelve pence—not a small sum in those days. Afterwards this penalty was changed to £20 per month, but exemptions were allowed in cases where there was no persistent obstinacy. However, the punishment of all persons above the age of 16 who neglected to go to Church for one whole month was very severe. They were abjured of the realm, and to return to the realm was felony. And two-thirds of the rent of the offender's land might also be seized, till he conformed.

These laws were in force through the reigns of Henry VIII., Mary, James I., Charles I. (the Commonwealth period, 1649 to 1660 excepted), Charles II., James, and up to I. William and Mary, when what is known as the Toleration Act was passed. It was then provided that all Protestant Dissenters should be exempt from all such penalties, and permitted to attend their own places of worship, such having being duly certified to the bishop, or archdeacon, or to the General Sessions of the Peace for the county. And of such places the Clerk of the Peace was to keep a register, and to give a certificate to any person demanding the same on payment of 6d. It would be very interesting to see this register to-day.

This Act was passed in 1688 (just the year after the holding of the Breconshire Sessions alluded to above), and therefore these penal laws had from the time of Henry's reign downwards been in force for 188 years. Papists were even then excepted from the benefit of the Act, which applied only to Protestant dissenters.

It is commonly believed that immediately on the passing of the Toleration Act, the chapels of the Plough in Lion street, Brecon, and of Golynos (light in the darkness) at Llanwrtyd, were built.

Of course these old compulsory enactments were to a certain extent impotent, as the people here and there met secretly to worship in their farmhouses, often with doors locked and barred; but they gave an immensity of trouble to our forefathers in Breconshire for many a long year, and I sometimes think their harmful influence is to be seen and felt to-day.

It was the same, too, in England as in Wales, and we owe the writing of the immortal allegory of the Pilgrim's Progress to the enforcement of these penal laws. John Bunyan composed it in Bedford gaol, when imprisoned by the justices of the day for, as a Baptist minister, preaching in a conventicle contrary to the statutes therein made and provided.

John Lloid of Towy.

The readers of our County History are familiar with the Inscription in Builth Church, and the monument there of this somewhat famous man, and also with the references to him under the heading of Llanwrtyd, and of Llanynis in the same work. I have, however, thought it well to give here a copy of the Inscription, because it serves as an introduction to the subjoined letter from W. Hereford to this John Lloid, which I have recently found. As far as I can ascertain this "W. Hereford" was Walter, Earl of Hereford, grantee or lessee of various Crown properties from Queen Elizabeth, and it seems probable this John Lloid was then Steward or Receiver of the Manor of Builth under the Crown.

INSCRIPTION IN BUILTH CHURCH.

"Here lieth John Lloid of Towy Squer to the body and Servante to our Sofvereigne Queene Elizabeth, who served herr Mat's father both at Mutreil and at Great Bullen, where hit was forgotten, and also in Scotland. This man was Steward of this Manr under the Right Honorable the Erle of Essex, transported out of Ireland into Carmarthen. Also the first Sherif and first Justice of the Peace that ever dwelte in this Lordship after the division of Wales into Shere ground. Whose father, Thomas Lloid, had been ld. liftenant of this County xl yeares together next after the arivall of that most famous Prince Henry the Seventh and Jasp his Uncle at Milfurde. This man departed this lief the First day of March Anno dmi 1585.

*. "Mutreil" is a town in France, and still I believe strongly fortified. "Great Bullen" is the modern Boulogne.

LETTER FROM W. HEREFORD TO JOHN LLOID OF TOWY.

[LAND REVENUE OFFICE, SOUTH WALES INROLMENTS, VOL. V. F. 66.]

I understand you have gathered all the heriotts wthin buelth sithence michalms last wch are myne by my Lease; I appointed Rothergh Gwyn to receave them before this but I pceave he hath not Also you wrot to me touching the Fellones goode there that the Shireff had ceased Them. I understand by the Shireff and other that the same are come to your hande. The Shireff would not meddle wh any thing that touched me. I require you to send me a pfect reconning wthin theise xv daies hither both of the heriotte and the Felons goode. The Aceompt to the receavor for them both I will take uppon me., Therefor let me understand the cteintie of all things to thered I maie conferre the same wt such note as are sent me thereof and hereof faile yo not as yo tendre my Favour And so fare you well. This iijth of September, 1569.

Yor ffrend

W. HEREFORD.

To my ffrend John lloid of Towy.

WILL OF JOHN LLOYD OF TOWY, 1585.

[EXTRACTED FROM THE DISTRICT PROBATE REGISTRY AT HEREFORD.]

In the Consistory Court of the Archdeaconry of Brecon.

In the Name of God Amen. The daye of January in the yere of or Lord God a thousand fyve hundred eightye with fyve in the xxviii th yere of the Reigne of our

Sovereigne Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God quene of England France and Ireland Defedr of the fathe, I John Lloyd of Towy in the Countye of Brecknock Esquier sicke and feble in body but whole in mynde and of pfect memorye laude and prayse be unto Allmightye God make my last Will and Testament in maner and forme followinge.

First I doe geve and bequeathe my Soule unto Allmightye God my Savior and Redemr. by whome I trust to be saved, and my bodye to be buried in the Church of Llanynis.

Item I doe geve and bequeath towoords the reparation of Cathedrall church of St. David's 12d.

Item I do geve and bequeth to the poore mens boxe of Llanynis ijs (2s.)

Item I do geve and grant unto John Lloyd my second sonne all my messuages or tenements of lands with all houses barns buildings lands meowes leasowes pastures woods underwoods gardens orchards liberts with all their apprtences. comonly called ond known by the names of Tyr Jevan apglluy ap Jevan Dewey yn y Velyndre y bryth werny Tir Jevan Weithbene Kae Jevan Lloyd garll madok ap Morgan garll hughe ap Rs in the Castle Streett ty vadok dd Morgan at Bridge ende yt yn somvent (?) at ty Robt Dio ap hoell ty hoell vadok ty wallt vy Isk and ty John Bannor sett lynge and being within the towne and parish of Llanvair in Buellt in the Contye of Brecknock. To have and to ferme hold to the sayd John Lloyd and his assignes for and duringe the terme of xxj (21) years next ensuinge in manner and forme followinge, vid : soe that my sayd Sonn Jon. Lloyd will be content to take the same by lease at the hands of my eldest sonne and heyr David Lloyd ap John and enter into covenants wth sufficient land to the use of David Lloyd ap John his heires and assignes not onlye to surrender up the premisses wth their apptences. unto the said David Lloyd ap John his heirs and assignes at the end of xxj (21) yeares but allsoe keepe reperacon of eny of the said houses and pseles (parcels) & soe leve and yeald up the same well and sufficiently as they are at this present time and allsoe to paye to the said David Lloyd ap John his heires and assignes the some of fortie shillings of good and lawful money of England yerely at evy. feast of Saint Michael the Archangell for and duringe the said term of xxi yeres.

Item I doe give and bequethe unto my said Sonne John Lloyd all my dyrie cattells and cattells beinge upon my lands called y kae Dye wth. all manner of cattell what soevr they be wch are wth my keeper there.

Item I doe give and bequethe unto Gwenllian vz (daughter) Willim my woyle (grandson) twllve heyffers,

Item I doe give and bequethe unto Jevan ap Madocke one cowe.

Item I doe give and bequethe unto Syble vz (daughter) Willim my woyle (grandson) one heyffer.

Item I doe give and bequethe unto David ap Jevan ap Morgan one heyffer.

Item I doe give and bequethe unto William John ap Morgan one beaste.

Item I doe give and bequethe unto Gole vz (daughter) David Lloyd one beaste.

Item I doe give and bequethe unto Robert John my woyle (grandson) two yerelinge beasts.

The residue of all my goods cattels movable and unmovable lands tenements rents reversiones leases covenna ts grants contracts recoveries capiasses executions debts demands and judgments as well by specialities as without specialities as well in matters and causes spirituall and temporall whereof I the said John Lloyd am of them or any parte of them entetuled at the writtinge hereof I doe give and bequethe unto my said eldest Sonne Dd Lloyd ap John his assignes for ever for ever whome I doe constitute ordaine and appoint to be my only true & sole executor these being wittnes—William Merdocke—John ap John Lloyd—Willm David Lln ap Morgan—William Thomas & Madocke Griffithe with others.

DEBTS DUE TO THE TESTATOR.

Imprimis upon Robert Toy of Carndthin (Carmarthen) Merchant fortie markes which I lent him and given and delivered unto Kobert Kerver his man to be delivered over unto the said Robert Toy at a daie long past.

Item upon David Lloyd ap Meredd esquire recovered in the last assisses in the Countey of Radnor nynetene pounds six shillings where upon I have two capiassees one upon his bodie & the other upon his goods.

Item upon David Powell of Llanellwedd recovered in the said assisses the lick (like) some of nynetene pounds six shillings wth lick (like) capiassees

Item upon William Lloyd ap David of Llanava (Llanavan ?) vechan the some of iiij l xiiij s iiij d (£4 13s. 4d.)

Item upon David Lloyd ap Jevan ap Rees xx s (20s.)

Item upon Willim ap Jevan ap Richard twentie shillings weh. I lent him by the hands of my sone John Lloyd to be delivered over unto him paiaible at daie longe past.

Imprimis xxiiij lie (24) Great Kyne pric (price) xxiiij l (£24).

Item six great oxen pric (price) vj l (£6).

Item lx (60) yewes pric (price) x l (£10).

Item one geldinge pric (price) vj l (£6).

Proved 14th March 1585 by the Executor.

The copy of the will received by me from the Hereford Registry is evidently an imperfect one, the copyist being unable to read some portions of it. However, it is I think, fairly intelligible. The word "woyre," which occurs three times, denotes a grandson, and vz, ferch, or merch, a daughter as Ap does the Son.

The names of places and tenements at Builth (Bridge End) are not intelligible, nor the tenants' names.

It appears that David Lloyd ap John was the eldest son and heir of the testator, and John the second son.

Talavan Forest.

Hundred of Builth, County of Brecon.

The first paper I have containing any references to this Forest is the Grant by Edward VI. (1550) of the Lordship of Builth to William Herbert, "Knight of the Garter and Master of Our Horse." The lands of "Tallawyn" are therein mentioned. This Grant was made in the 4th year of the King's reign, and it would seem that immediately after an Exchange took place between the King and Sir William Herbert, by which the Lordship of Builth, including the Forest of Talavan, became again part of the possessions of the Crown.

This is shown by the Grant to farm in 24 Eliz. (1582) by Letters Patent of the herbage and pannage of the Forest of Tallavan (formerly held by Richard Lloid) with all its rights, &c., to David Lloid ap John Lloid. The lease was for 21 years at the annual rent of 6s. 8d. It is evident that the Forest was very well known, as it was thought unnecessary to give any description of its boundaries. Apparently at that period parishes were not recognized as defined districts in legal documents as they now are.

The next paper gives the lease of the same Forest in 34 Eliz., 1592, to John Wells, Scrivener, of London, at the same rent of 6s. 8d. for the term of 60 years to commence from 1603, when the lease previously granted to David Lloid ap John Lloid expired.

The said Wells appears to have immediately assigned his interest to Richard Budd, who again in 35 Eliz. assigned his interest to one David Lloid ap John Lloid, who was of course the old tenant. This carries on the interest of David Lloid and his descendants down to 1663.

The last document I have relating to the Forest is dated 1st James II. (1686). It is a grant by the King of the Lordship of Builth, including the Forest of Talavan, to

Christopher Favell and Thomas Young in confirmation of a previous grant by the King's father in the 7th of his reign.

Sir Edmund Sawyer's name is also mentioned as a grantee. These men were London financiers, or money lenders, who had advanced money to Charles II. and James II. on security of the private resources of the Crown. The facility with which this could be done, and had been by Charles I., in a measure contributed probably to the outbreak of the Great Rebellion, or the Civil War.

Grant to William Herbert, Knight of the Lordship of Builth, &c., 1550.

SOUTH WALES ENROLMENTS.

[TRANSLATION.]

VOL. 1., Fo. 152d.

LETTERS PATENT OF WILLIAM HERBERT, KNT., FOR LANDS IN COS. GLAMORGAN AND MONMOUTH, RADNOR AND BRECON, GRANTED TO HIM FOR EVER.

Edward the 6th &c. To all to whom these present letters shall come. Know ye that We in consideration of the good, true, faithful and acceptable service which Our beloved and faithful Councillor William Herbert, Knight of the Garter, Master of Our Horse, rendered to Us at his great charges, against the rebels in the west parts of England, of Our special grace, certain knowledge and mere motion and with the advice of Our Council have granted to him and by these presents do grant to him all those our lordships and manors of Ruthin, Llanblethian, Boviarton, &c. &c. &c. in co. Glamorgan.

Also all Our lordship and manor of Buelth and Our borough of Buelth and also all Our castle of Buelth and Our forest of Tallawyn, and all Our lands, tenements, rents and hereditaments called Tyre tale diesten with all their rights, members and appurtenances, jurisdiction and liberties in Our County of Brecon formerly parcel of the lands and possessions of the late Earl of March. Also all Our lordships and manors of Ebvel villa Castri Istemoneth &c. &c. in co. Radnor.

Also all the messuages, granges, mills, tofts, cottages, houses, buildings, barns, ponds, orchards, gardens, lands, waters, fishings, moors, warrens, chaces, woods, advowson, free disposition and right of patronage of Churches and other ecclesiastical benefices, courts leet, view of frank pledge, fairs, markets, tolls, customs, &c., &c., &c., in Ruthin.

Buelth, Tallawyn, Ivan, Treffles, Penne buelth and Southirvin in Co. Brecon . . . to the said lordships, manors, boroughs, vills, castles and granges and other the premises in any way belonging or appertaining. We also give to the said William Herbert, all woods, underwoods and trees growing upon the premises; also all rents and yearly profits whatsoever reserved upon any demises made of the said premises.

And we give to him all the said premises as fully and wholly as Jasper, late Duke of Bedford or the Lady Katherine late Queen of England or the said late Earl of March held and enjoyed the same and in as ample manner and forme as the same came to Our hands or to the hands of Our most dear Father King Henry 8.

And We also grant to the said William Herbert that he may hold and enjoy within the said lordships, manors, &c., all, such, and the like courts leet, views of frank pledge and assize of bread, wine and ale, also chattels waived, estrays, free warrens, fairs, markets, &c., such and as fully as the said Jasper, Queen Katherine and the Earl of March held the same. [Then follow grants of land in London and Middlesex, &c., &c.]

Which said premises extend to the clear yearly value of £447 10s. 1½d and half a farthing.

To hold to the said William Herbert and his heirs for ever, to the proper uses of himself and his heirs for ever.

And We also grant to the said William Herbert all the issues, rents and profits of all the said premises forthcoming from the feast of the Annunciation last past up to the present time without rendering any account for the same.

In witness whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made patent.

Witness Ourselves at Westminster 7 May in the 4th year of Our reign [1550.]

Talavan Forest.

Lease of—1582.

[TRANSLATION.]

LAND REVENUE RECORD OFFICE.

COUNTY OF BRECON.

LETTERS PATENT TO DAVID LLOID AP JOHN LLOID.

Elizabeth by the grace of God Queen of England France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all to whom these present Letters shall come greeting. Know ye that we for the fine of twenty six shillings and eight pence of lawful money of England paid at the Receipt of our Exchequer to our use by our beloved subject David Lloid ap John Lloid have given granted and to farm demised and by these presents do give grant and to farm demise to the aforesaid David Lloid ap John Lloid all that our herbage and pannage of our forest of Tallavan with all their rights members and appurtenances in our County of Brecknock now or late in the tenure or occupation of Richard Lloid or his assigns, and all and singular our profits commodities advantages emoluments and hereditaments whatsoever to the said herbage and pannage and other the premises in any way belonging or appertaining or with the same or any of them by the rent below in these presents reserved demised, placed used or occupied, being parcel of the possessions exchanged by William late Earl of Pembroke with our most dear brother Edward VI. late King of England, and formerly being parcel of the possessions late of the Earl of March : To have and to hold all and singular the premises with all their appurtenances to the said David Lloid ap John Lloid his executors and assigns from the feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary the Virgin last past up to the end of the term and by the term of 21 years then next following and fully to be completed, paying therefore yearly to us our heirs and successors six shillings and eight pence of lawful money of England at the feasts of St. Michael the Archangel and the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary the Virgin at the hands of the bailiff or receiver of the premises for the time being by equal portions, to be paid during the term aforesaid. And the said David Lloid ap John Lloid his executors and assigns shall support do and make all charges, suits, services and repairs due for the premises or by right from old times accustomed to be supported done or made from time to time, and shall exonerate us our heirs and successors and shall keep us quit and indemnified against all persons in all things during the term granted in these presents. Provided always that if the said rent shall happen to be in arrear or unpaid in part or in the whole by the space of forty day after any feast of the feasts aforesaid when it ought to be paid as is aforesaid : That then and from thenceforth this present demise and grant shall be null and void anything in these presents to the contrary thereof notwithstanding and notwithstanding any statute act ordinance provision proclamation or restriction to the

contrary thereof heretofore had, made, published ordained or promised or any other thing, matter or cause whatsoever. In witness whereof we have caused these our Letters to be made Patent. Witness our beloved and faithful Councillor William Baron of Burghley our Treasurer of England, at Westminster the 9th day of July in the twenty fourth year of our reign.

Smyth.

By warrant of the Lord Treasurer of England and the Chancellor of the Court of the Exchequer.

Talavan Forest—Lease for 60 Years—1592.

LAND REVENUE OFFICE.

South Wales Inrolments, Vol. 6, F. 49, is the following :—

To all true xxian people to whome thes p'sence shall come Richard Budd of London gent sendeth greeting. Whereas or soveraygne Ladie Elizabeth the Quenes Maty that nowe is by her highnes Lres Patente under the great seale of England beareing date at Westmr the iijth daie of maye in the xxxiiijth yere of her highnes reigne for the consideration in the sayde Lres Patente menconed and expressed And at the humble peticon of Sr Owen Hopton knight hath amongst other thinges therein couteyned dimised graunted and to fearme letten unto John Wells of London scrivener All that her highnes herbage and pannage of the fforest of Tallavan with their righte members and apprtennce whatsoevr. in the Countie of Brecknock sometime p.cell of the landes exchanged by Willm. late Earle of Pembroke with Edward the sixte late Kinge of Englande sometymes p.cell of the possessions of the late Earle of March. And to one dd Lloyd ap John lloyd by her highnes Lres Patente bering date the ixth daie of Julie in the xxiiijth yere of her Maty reygne for the terme of xxjtie yeres begynning from the feast of the Anunciacion of or blessed ladie St. Marie the Virgin then last past and for the yerelie rent of six shillings & eight pence demised and grannted. To have and to hold the saide herbage and pannage of the fforest of Tallavan aforesaid wth theire righte members and appurtennce whatsoevr. to the said John Wells his executors and assignes from the feaste of the Annuc. of or blessed ladie St. Marie the Virgin wch shall be in the yere of or lord God 1603 unto the end of the terme and for the term of Lx yeres from thence next ensewing and fully to be compleat and ended Yielding from thenceforth yerelie unto or said Sovereigne Lady the queene her heires and Successors of and for the said herbage and pannage of the fforest of Tallavan aforesaid wth the appurtennce six shillings eight pence of lawfull money of England at the feaste of St. Michael th archangell and the Annuc. of our blessed ladie St. Marie the Virgin at the receipte of the excheqr of our sayde sovereigne lady the Queene her heires and Successors or to the handes of the bailiffe or Receavors of the same prmisses for the tyme being by equall porcons to be paid during the terme aforesaid thereof by the said first recited Lres Patente graunted as in and by the sayde Lres Patente to the said John Wells graunted as aforesayde (amongst other thinges) more at large it doth and maie appere

The said Wells assigned his interest to Richard Budd by his deed dated the fift daie of maie in the xxxiiijth yere of her Maty reigne.

The said Rich. Budd assigned his interest to one dd Lloyd ap John Lloyd by his deed dated the xth daie of No : in the xxxvth yere of her Maty reigne.

Lordship of Builth, &c.

Grant of—1686.

SOUTH WALES INROLMENTS, VOL. 12, Fo. 193.

James the Second, & all to whom, &c. greeting. We have inspected the enrolment of certain Letters Patent dated 9th Jany in the 7th year of the reign of Our most dear Father made to Christopher Favell and Thomas Young gent, the tenor whereof as to the lordship of Buelt in Our County of Brecon follows in these words: The King to all, &c. greeting. Whereas We by Letters Patent dated at Canbury 4 Oct., in the 6th year of our reign in part compliment and performance of the promise on Our part specified in an indenture dated 7 May in the 6th year of Our reign, made between Ourselves and several of the lords of Our Privy Council of the one part, and John Haydon. Knt., William Russell, Knt., Ralph Freeman, Esq., and Charles Harbord, Esq., of the other part, and in consideration of £2350 paid to Us by the said Charles Harbord, and by Us then owing to him, and for the further sum of £2205 17 4½ by the said Charles paid into Our Exchequer, being part of the sum of £4250 to be paid by the said Charles Harbord, have given to the said Charles Harbord, Christopher Fawell and Thomas Young, gent., their heirs and assigns for ever All that manor of Burneham in Co. Bucks, and divers other manors, castles, lordships messuages, lands, tenements and hereditaments specified in the said Letters Patent: Which said Letters We hereby ratify and confirm.

Now know ye that We in further complement of the promises made in Our said indenture, and for the further sum of £2044 2 7½ paid by the said Charles Harbord, and at his request, have granted to the said Christopher Fawell and Thomas Young, gent., and their heirs for ever all that Our lordship and manor of Buelt with all its rights, members and appurts in Co. Brecon; also all that Our borough and vill of Buelt and all the hamlets, parishes, villages, rents and customs, rent of assize, rent of burgage, demesne land and forest land called Tallavon, and all the toll of the vill of Buelt, and all profits and commodities whatsoever as well within the liberties as without and all the shops and warehouses in the said vill and lordship, together with the toll of the Bridg End and all other places there, and all other lands, tenements and hereditaments whatsoever called by the name of the lordship, manor, borough and vill of Buelt: Except always all that mill in Southervon, parcel of or reputed to be parcel of the said lordship or manor, and before granted in fee farm: which said lordship and manor of Buelt by the particular thereof is mentioned to be parcel of the land exchanged by William late Earl of Pembroke with Edward VI. late King of England, and to be of the clear yearly rent or value of £68 14 11½, together with £20 for a certain Comortha there every second year: Which premises above by these presents granted by indenture dated 3 Feb. in the 6th year of Our reign, are by Our warrant granted to the said Charles Harbord for the whole residue of 99 years and for all the term granted to him, Thos. Trevor and others now deceased by the indenture of Our late Father King James to Our use before We came to the throne: which said indenture We have examined and hereby ratify and confirm the same.

We have also given to the said Christopher Fawell and Thomas Young all the messuages, lands, mills, barns, orchards, lands, trees, tithes, waters, mines, quarries, &c., &c., &c. within the said commote and lordship, and in any of the said castles, lordships, manors, &c.; also all yearly rents and profits on the said premises; and that they may hold the same as freely as We have done: Except nevertheless all knights fees, wards and marriages, and all advowsons, free gifts and right of patronage of all rectories, churches, vicarages, chapels, and all other ecclesiastical benefices whatsoever: Also except all royalties of mines of gold and silver being upon the premises: To hold the said premises to the said Christopher and Thomas and their heirs in fee farm for ever, of Us and Our heirs as of Our manor of East Greenwich in Co. Kent by fealty only in free and common socage, and not in chief or by knights service, paying to Us yearly for the said lordship

and manor of Buelt £45 1 5 ; and also paying to Us for the lordship and manor aforesaid for a rent called Magna Comortha of custom there £20 every second year. And further We grant that We for ever hereafter will pay to Robert Earl of Essex and Theophilus Earl of Suffolk a yearly fee of £18 13 4 to them before granted for their fees as stewards of the said lordship or manor of Buelt for their lives ; and We also absolve them from paying any other fees, annuities and pensions.

Witness the King at Westminster 29 Jany. 7 Charles.

We have also inspected another indenture made 2 March, 1631, between Charles Harbord of London, Esq., and Christopher Fawell and Thos. Young of London, gent., of the one part and Edmund Sawyer of Heywood in Co. Berks, Knt., and John Philipps of London, gent., of the other part for a sum of money and the said Christopher & Thomas at the appointment of the said Charles Harbord have granted to the said Edmund Sawyer, Knt., and John Phelips and their heirs all the lordship and manor of Buelt, in co. Brecon, all the borough and vill of Buelt, &c. &c. [as above] : except [also as above]. Also land in Llanire in co. Radnor ; also all the houses, lands, &c. to the said lordship belonging : To hold all the same as fully as the said King Charles by Letters Patent dated 29 Jany in the 7th year of his reign, granted the said lordship of Buelt to the said Christopher Fawell and Thomas Young and their heirs in fee farm. Except knights fees, &c. [as above] : To hold all the said premises to the said Edmund and John and their heirs for ever, of Us as of Our said manor of East Greenwich by fealty only in free and common socage and not in chief or by knights service, paying for the said lordship of Buelt £45 1 5.

In witness whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent. Witness Ourself at Westminster 12 January, in the 1st year of Our reign [1686.]

The Gwynne of Garth and Llanelwedd Estate.

LORDSHIP OF BUILTH, &c., 1823.

ACCOUNT OF RECEIVER IN CHANCERY.

It happens that a Suit was begun in the Court of Chancery relating to this large estate between Thomas Price and Thomas Thomas, plaintiffs, and Rice Price, Clerk, and Eliza Ann, his wife, and others, Defendants, about 1820, and we find that the whole estate was for the time being thrown into Chancery. The Court appointed Mr. Thomas Maybery, of Brecon. Solicitor and Prothonotary of the Great Sessions, their Receiver, and we have been enabled to find among the Master's Documents (Master Rose) in the Suit at the Record Office the third annual account of the Receiver of the Estate. We think it an interesting document, as giving the names of the farms on the large Gwynne Estate in 1823, before its dispersal by Public Auction had taken place, and also particulars of the Chief Rents payable by the Parishes within the Lordship.



PAGE 100.]

THE DOLDYMMER FOOTBRIDGE ON THE YRFON.

IN CHANCERY.

THOMAS PRICE and THOMAS THOMAS, Plaintiffs,

versus

RICE PRICE, Clerk, and ELIZA ANN, his Wife, and others, Defendants.

[MASTER'S DOCUMENTS (MASTER ROSE) CHANCERY. BUNDLE 296. PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE.]
 The Third Account of Thomas Maybery, Esq., Receiver of the Estates in this Cause, for
 the year ending Lady Day—1823—and of his Disbursement.

Tenants Names.	Estates.	Arrears at Lady Day, 1822.	Yearly Rent.	Cash received.	Arrears at Lady Day, 1823.
Thomas Jones	Whitehouse	25 0 0	150 0 0	175 0 0	.....
*Hugh Morgan	Kingshead, &c. ....	.....	52 10 0	.....	52 10 0
Richard Butts	House, &c. ....	.....	23 0 0	23 0 0	.....
†Charles Lawrence..	Park and Wells.....	128 0 0	128 0 0	50 0 0	206 0 0
Thos. Jones	Pencaer helen .....	.....	58 0 0	58 0 0	.....
Wm. Thomas	Noyadd	31 10 0	60 0 0	54 10 0	37 0 0
David Gwillim ..	Perthlwyd .....	.....	60 0 0	60 0 0	.....
Thos. Jones	Kilgawidd	30 9 0	32 0 6	30 0 0	32 9 0
Lewis Williams ..	Penfynon	25 10 0	16 0 0	14 0 0	27 10 0
Charlotte Lewis ..	Bryngoch	117 18 6	38 0 0	24 0 0	131 18 6
Evan Lewis	Wain Odin.....	5 0 0	8 0 0	.....	13 0 0
John Davies	Brynyoye	155 19 0	188 0 0	189 10 0	154 9 0
Do.	Brynheol & Penwhylod }				
Benjamin Griffiths	Ystrad	17 0 0	50 0 0	46 0 0	21 0 0
Roger Davis	Llanafan	111 4 0	65 0 0	27 1 0	149 3 0
John Price.....	Kefn lippa.....	16 0 0	16 0 0	.....	32 0 0
John Evans	Dole Derwen.....	123 0 0	60 0 0	70 0 0	113 0 0
†John Jones	Gentre.....	.....	60 6 0	.....	60 0 0
John Thomas	Kefn Coed	34 0 0	42 0 0	40 0 0	36 0 0
Rees Davies	Penrhiewmoch	77 0 0	35 0 0	8 0 0	104 0 0
Wm. Price.....	Llaneroh Llwyd	35 3 0	45 10 0	47 0 0	33 13 0
David Price	Kildu .....	.....	31 10 0	31 10 0	.....
John Thomas	Maes y cefen y Ffordd ..	.....	42 0 0	10 10 0	31 10 0
David Evans.....	Tyn y foes & Trwderwen	224 5 6	112 10 0	30 0 0	306 15 6
§David Jones	Rhose Gilwen .....	.....	40 0 0	39 2 0	0 18 0
David Davies	Kenigia	3 0 0	6 0 0	6 0 0	3 0 0
Evan Powell	Llethlr bach	0 10 6	1 1 0	0 10 6	1 1 0
David Davies	Newhouse & tolls of Builth	0 18 0	21 10 0	21 10 0	0 18 0
Thos. Pritchard...	Rabbit Warren.....	.....	4 0 0	4 0 0	.....
John Morris	Pant y wrach	2 10 0	5 0 0	2 9 6	5 0 6
Catherine Jones ..	Llwyn Piod	82 2 0	130 0 0	105 0 0	106 13 0
David Price	Maes llech	82 0 0	120 0 0	44 3 0	157 17 0
Catherine Jones ..	Ynis Codwor	30 0 0	55 0 0	50 0 0	35 0 0
†John Williams	Garth, &c.	189 5 0	320 0 0	.....	509 5 0
William Bowcott ..	Willwryn .....	.....	2 12 6	2 12 6	.....
Ann Pugh	Crawnant mawr	25 0 0	25 0 0	.....	50 0 0
||James Meredith ..	Llanelwedd	200 0 0	400 0 0	251 10 0	348 10 0
Peter Holl	Groe House	54 0 0	25 2 0	18 0 0	61 4 0
John Jones.....	Cottage on Llanelwedd Rocks	7 7 0	2 2 0	.....	9 9 0
▲Thomas Probert ..	Gelly Cadwgan. . . .	322 6 6	.....	147 11 2	.....
■John Davies	Gelly Cadwgan.....	.....	136 10 0	.....	136 10 0
Samuel Jones	Cwm Shepherd	49 18 0	25 0 0	.....	74 18 0
Hugh Morgan	Groe	27 0 0	20 0 0	10 0 0	37 0 0
Isaac Price.....	Meeting house at Pent- rhydir	6 0 0	3 0 0	.....	9 0 0
John Jones.....	Waste lands in Builth..	.....	0 5 0	0 5 0	.....
David Evans.....	Cottage on Garth Common	6 2 6	1 10 0	.....	7 12 6
William Thomas ..	Llychnant	0 10 0	0 5 0	.....	0 15 0
John Jarman.....	Bwlch y derwent	1 1 0	1 1 0	.....	2 2 0

Tenants Names.	Estates.	Arrears at Lady Day, 1822.	Yearly Rent.	Cash received.	Arrears at Lady Day, 1823.
c Rees Jones	Common Tyr Bailey ..	7 7 0	1 1 0	.....	8 8 0
Rees Jones	Dolegainon	2 10 0	1 5 0	.....	3 15 0
William Jones	Tytwd	0 10 0	0 5 0	.....	0 15 0
Rees Williams	Cwm Owen	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 0 0	1 2 0
late William Jones	Dan yr all	4 0 0	2 0 0	.....	6 0 0
Rev. M. Williams	Cottage at Pontyded....	1 10 0	1 10 0	.....	3 0 0
Samuel Handley ..	Gilbert's Mill	0 17 2	1 14 4	1 14 4	0 17 2
Thomas Pritchard	Pen llan .....	.....	1 1 0	1 1 0	.....
Evan Powell	Newll	2 2 0	2 2 0	2 2 0	2 2 0
Evan Evans	Tyle quarry on Alt Dinas	1 0 0	2 0 0	.....	3 0 0
Richard Butts	Chapel in Built.....	.....	0 5 0	0 5 0	.....
		1945 4 2	2732 0 10	1696 17 0	3127 10 2

OBSERVATIONS.

* This is a new taking and the Tenant has expended a considerable sum in Repairs of the Inn, &c., which were before scarcely Tenatable.

† There was a Mistake of £28 in the last Account, the Rent ought to have £128 instead of £100, and the Tenant has expended a large sum in building a new House, the accounts for which have not yet been settled.

‡ This tenant has laid out money in repairs, which have not as yet been ascertained.

§ This Tenant has purchased his Farm and will pay the arrears on the completion of his Purchase.

¶ This tenant is considered responsible, but owing to the pressure of the times has not been able at present to pay his Rent.

|| It is intended to Petition for an Abatement of Rent.

▲ This is the residue of the money produced by sale of Tenants Goods sold under Distress.

■ This is a new taking from Lady Day, 1822, and the Tenant claims a considerable sum for Repairs.

c This Piece of Land is open to the Hill or Common, has no fence whatever, and a Distress on the Hill Sheep could not be justified on that Account.

CHIEF RENTS

RECEIVED TO

	£	s.	d.
Hamlet of Llanlleonvel	1	5	0 ³ / ₄
Do. Treflis	1	13	4 ³ / ₄
Llanafan Vaur, 1st Division	0	16	8
Do. 3rd Division	0	10	10
Hamlet of Llysdinam	0	9	3
Llanfihangel Abergwessin	1	0	7
Llanganten	1	5	0 ³ / ₄
Llandewy Abergwessin	0	10	3
Hamlet of Gwaravog	1	0	4
Llanynis	1	13	7
Llanvihangel Bryn pabeau... ..	0	12	4
Llanvechan	1	5	0 ³ / ₄
Llanwrthwl Upper Division	0	15	6 ¹ / ₂
Do. Lower Division	0	15	6 ¹ / ₂
Maesmynis	2	3	8
Llangammarch	2	11	6

	£	s.	d.
Llandewy Cwm	2	0	5
Allt Mawr	0	10	7
Llantwid Llechweddol	0	17	8
Do. Clawth Maddog	0	18	2½
Llanvihangel Bryn pabeau... ..	1	1	10
Maesmynis	1	7	2½
Llandewir Cwm	1	9	4
Alt Mawr	0	7	1
Llanganten	0	18	2½
Llanvechan	0	18	2½
Llisdinam	0	16	3
Gwaravog	0	15	5
Llangunnog	0	8	4
Llanavon Vawr—3rd Division	0	19	3
Llangammarch Penbwyallt	1	10	8
Treflis	1	8	6
Llanwrthwl Upper Division	1	7	5½
Do. Lower Division	1	7	5½
Llanynis	1	1	9½
Llanlleonvel... ..	0	18	2½
Llanvihangel Abergwessin	1	16	8

£41 7 9

THE RECEIVER'S DISCHARGE.

	£	s.	d.
FEE FARM RENTS.			
Paid Miss Isabella Hughes Fee farm Rents due Michas., 1823... ..	55	14	8
REPAIRS, &c.			
To an allowance to John Davies, Bryn y oye Money by him paid to Mr. John Price for a Water course thro' his lands	2	5	0
To Do. to Roger Davies Llanafan for repairs as Pr. Bill and Receipt	0	7	6
To Do. to Wm. Thomas Noyadd for glazing window	0	15	5
To Do. to for repairing Beast house &c.	1	5	0
Paid David Jones, carpenter, on further Account of Repairs	20	0	0
Allowed David Gwillim for repairs and half a year's allowance for lime	26	5	0
Receipt Stamps &c. for two years... ..	3	0	0
Receiver's Salary on Receiving £1788 4 0	86	18	0
Do.'s Costs of passing this Account	16	15	4
The Plaintiffs—Do. of Do... ..	5	17	6
The Defendants—Do. of Do.	4	12	10
The Receivers Do. pursuant to Order 29 July 1822	69	2	0
The Plaintiffs—Do. Do. Do.	18	7	2
The Defendants—Do. Do. Do... ..	18	7	2
	£336	11	1

£1129 2 0 Balance of last Account paid.

T.M.

SUMMARY.

Balance due from the Receiver on passing his last Account	1129	2	0
Amount of Rents received	1696	17	0
Chief Rents	41	7	0
	1788	4	0
Total Charge on Receiver	2867	6	0

Balance due from the Receiver on passing his last Account paid									
into the Bank...	...	...	...	..	..	...	1129	2	0
Amount of payments as per this Account	...	...	...	..	..	...	896	11	1
Total Receiver's Discharge							...	1465	13 1
Balance due from the Receiver on passing this Account	...	...	...	...	...	...	£1401	12	11

This large Estate, said to comprise the Manor of Builth and about 110,000 acres of Waste land and hills, and Freehold Farms containing 4,400 acres of meadow and pasture land, and the Park Wells were put up to auction at the Castle Hotel, Brecon, on April 3rd and 4th, 1823, by order of the Court of Chancery, by Master Courtenay.

A further auction of the 1700 acres unsold was held at the same place on August 15th, 1823 (the same year).

The Printed Particulars of these Sales (there are however no Plans attached) I have had placed in the large Folio Book of such County Property Sales, page 57, now in Mr A. Maybery's possession at Brecon.

Forgotten Industries.

(BRECONSHIRE.)

An account of the vast Black Cattle droves that were brought along the cattle track on Epynt mountain from Carmarthenshire and other West Wales counties to England has previously been given (Page 53.)

And a friend, I am glad to say, has written at my request an account of the old Mail Coach days, and I hope in due time to be permitted to include it among these papers for publication. There is no one so competent to write it as my friend, who has a facile pen, a wonderfully good memory, and a long experience himself of the mail coach days. The persons of the famous coachmen and guards of that time are pictured in his memory, as if he saw them yesterday.

But there are other forgotten industries of our County, which deserve description.

CARDY CARTS.

The large trade by means of the Cardy Carts in dressed pigs, and in casks of butter from Cardiganshire and West Carmarthenshire through our County to the iron works on the hills, is well described in the poem by my father entitled :

THE WEEK'S JOURNEY.

“ It was in early winter, at the time
 When to the Southern range of Cambrian hills,
 Whose mineral wealth is as a boundless sea
 Wiidepread, and to its centre deepening still,
 Light carts from all our inland vallies wend,
 Giving each road an air of cheerfulness:
 Some with their tempting tiers of slaughtered swine
 Outstretched, as if the Goddess Plenty held
 A pageant, and her portly emblems these.
 Others again with dairy casks replete,
 That through the summer season day by day
 Filled up, as hives with honey, by the bees,
 Must now rejoice the good wife's eyes no more,
 But through that mountain tract be scattered wide
 To help the industrious miner's hard-won meal.”

These verses tell practically the whole story to those who have once seen a procession of the Cardy Carts passing along our roads, but to those who have not, a short description

in prose is necessary to enable them to understand the trade, and to form a true idea of the mode of transit.

In the days we are writing of, there were no railways to the Hill districts, while those districts themselves were the scene of far larger iron mining operations than any the present generation have seen, or that ever will be seen again. From Hirwain onwards to the east at Nantyglo and Blaenavon, the borders of Breconshire and Glamorganshire, including Cyfartha, Plymouth, Rhymney, Tredegar, Sirhowy, Ebbw Vale, and Beaufort, had vast iron-works in full swing, with a large and increasing population that had to be fed. And so, in the vales of Teivy and Towy, and even farther west, it became the habit of the farmers to breed pigs, and prepare casks of slightly salted butter to be sent to the Hills in the early autumn and winter seasons.

The pigs were fresh-killed, and dressed, just as you see sheep in our ordinary butcher's shop. But a weighty pig dressed, and stretched out at full length, was rather a gruesome sight, and when reposing on their journey in the Cardy Cart were practically hidden by folds of clean white sheets. However, the points of the outstretched legs and the head were always visible. I think the pigs had the cart to themselves generally, while the rows of butter casks filled another.

The Cardy Cart was peculiar, and is foreign to Breconshire. We have nothing like it, and I wonder if the learned King's Counsel, who said and maintained in spite of the laughter of the Court, that a Breconshire "gambo" had no wheels, would be able to describe a "Cardy Cart!" The peculiarity is the lightness of the wheels and sides, the latter being open with low upright turned rails. I expect it was designed for this particular trade, though useful for harvest work at home. The cart was always painted a light red ochre colour and kept spotlessly clean.

The one horse in the shaft was a "Cardy" horse—a breed of itself, of a medium brown colour, but light and slinky, 14 hands or a little more in height, a good free walker, and capable of going long distances without tiring.

The driver—for he sat on the cart with the G.O.-like reins in his hand—was either the farmer or the hired carrier, and he was of that spare lathy breed of men you find to-day on the borders of Carmarthenshire and Cardiganshire. And we know that district has produced many a shrewd man of business, who has made his mark in trade in England.

The party of carts, usually 10 or 12 together in a string, all came from Llandovery to Brecon by way of Treacastle. Some turned up the road for Merthyr either at Pont Senny or at the Tarrall bridge, but the bulk came on and always made the Bridge End Inn, kept then by Prosser, as their resting place for the night. It was rare to see the road by the side of the College wall unoccupied by a string of un-horsed carts, those laden or those returning empty.

Of course they had their regular stopping places. Their object was, leaving Teivy side on a Monday, to get to the Hills, transact their business there, and then be back home in good time for Friday, or Saturday, and so have the Sunday quietly at home.

After leaving Brecon by the Watton road, the carts usually turned over the Lock bridge, and made for Llangynider, and then up the Trefil hill to the Works, where their best customers dwelt, probably in those days the Companys shops, like Bychan's at Rhymney, and Jayne's at Nantyglo.

These journeys were not unattended with risk, and the sad story so well told in the "Week's Journey" is an illustration of the dangers. And of course they had to keep a good look out for Howel Rees, coming down the 3 miles from Treacastle to Sennybridge in 7½ minutes. They knew his time and prudently drove on one side when they heard old Compton, the guard, blowing his horn. What a lot of money they must have paid in Tolls to the Breconshire Trust! I think I have heard the freight of two full Cardy Carts was worth £70—but I have no means of verifying it now.

The distance to be travelled in the week, to and fro, would be about 180 miles, and a good deal of the travelling was done at night, or in the very early morning.

OAK-PLANKING FOR NEW QUAY AND ABERAYRON.

Another lost industry is that of the conveyance of oak timber, converted into planks at Brecon, from our County westward into Cardiganshire to New Quay, Cardigan, and Aberayron. I think most of it went to New Quay, and was used for the purpose of building and repairing coasting vessels there. It was not uncommon for Breconshire small capitalists to have a share in these vessels, and I remember some cousins of mine having this investment. Messrs. John Griffiths & Son mainly provided the oak timber, and converted it into planks of the required dimensions at their Brecon yard. The timber carriages used were a Cardiganshire speciality, having the lightest of narrow wheels and framework. And the horses used were two in number only, one before the other, and of the stronger class of Cardy breed, but smart walkers. Of course this was but a small industry, and you only occasionally met these timber carriages on the road. However, this traffic, with that of the frequent strings of Cardy carts, and the rush by of the mail coaches, added to the passing of postchaises, imparted a life and cheerfulness to our roads that we can hardly realise now. Bicycles and motor cars are but a poor substitute, and only to be met with on the roads when they are dry.

This demand for a small class of lengthy oak timber for Cardiganshire helped to keep the price up, and Breconshire landowners were in those days able to obtain £9 for a full-sized oak tree, containing about 60 to 70 feet cube of timber. I have by me the prices realised at a timber sale on the Tregunter estate, when 90 trees were sold for £900.

Mr. Davies, of Ffrwdvale, in Carmarthenshire, who gave me many valuable notes, when preparing the paper on Black Cattle dreves, writes me thus :

"I remember a great number of carts passing through Llansawell from South Cardigan and North Pembrokeshire, and another string from the Lampeter and Tregaron district—in fact, Mid-Cardiganshire—passing through Pumpsaint on their way to the iron-works, carrying 'Pigs in carcase.' It was winter, I should think, from November to the end of March. The pigs were freshly killed, but not salted, and would not, I suppose, stand carrying in warm weather."

And he adds—

"There was another great industry in those days, the carrying of oak timber from Radnorshire and Breconshire to Aberayron for ship-building."

Brecknock Castle.

A COMYSSION FOR REPACONS OF BRECKNOCKE CASTLE.

LAND REVENUE RECORD OFFICE COPY.

Among the Inrolments in the custody of the Keeper of His Majesty's Land Revenue Records and Inrolments in book intituled "South Wales Inrolments Vol. 1" and at Folio 171 is the following :—

Edwarde the Sixthe by the grace of God King of Englande FFraunce and Ireland Defendo'r of the faith and of the churche of Englande and also of Ireland, in earthe the Supream headde, To our trustie and welbelovyd Sr Roger Vaughan knight John Bassett and Edwarde Games esquiers Greeting.

Wheare wee ar enformed that our Castell of Brecknocke in dyvers places thereof are mochie in decaye for default of repacons thereof an estymat of the charge of which repacons appearith in a Cedula herunto annexed, Knowe yee that wee willing to have the same repacons to be made and donne trusting in yo'r fidelities and approved wisdoms doe give vnto you or two of you of whom you the said John Bassett to be one full power and authoritie to repayre to o'r said Castell and diligently to sorvey viewe serche and examyn

by all wayes and means that ye can whether the repacons mencioned in the said Cedula ar necessary to be don or not and what somes of money the same repacons will amount unto.

And theruppon you the said Sr Roger Vaughan John Bassett Edwarde Games or ij of you of whom you the said John Bassett to be one to direct yo'r warraunt to Mathew Herbert esquier for the payment and delywie of so mochie money of o'r Revenues remain- ing in his hands to be bestowed and employed upon the repacons aforesaid as is mencioned in the said Cedula or as mochie thereof as by you shall be thought necessary and con- venient for the same which warraunt and warraunts shall be to the same Mathew Herbert a sufficient discharge for the payment and delywye of the same money. And what you shall doe in the premyssies to certifie into our Court of Thaugmentacons and Revenus of o'r Crowne at Westm' ymediately uppon the sight hereof together with this Comysion

In Wittness whereof wee have caused theis o'r Lres of Comysion to be made Patente and sealed with the great seale of o'r said Court of thaugmentacons, Wittness Richard Sackville Knight at West' the xxiiijth day of februarye in the vth yere of o'r Reygne
Duke.

COM' BRECKNOCKE.

AN ESTIMAT OF THE NECESSARIE REPACONS TO BE MADE AND DONE UPON THE KINGE MA CASTELL OF BRECKNOCKE IN THE SAID COUNTIE.

Ffirst next win the gate of the said Castell in the schequier chamber and the chamber ov' the same being xl fote in length and xvij fote in bredeth, lacking a gutter of leade betwene the Castell wall and the said lodging of xl fote in lenght and fortye vij in fote, Justs conteyning xvij fote in lenght and other necessaries o _____ vijli

Itm in the Inn'chamber w'in the same lacking v lodes of v fote longe and one pticon of xvj fote in length, tenne ffote ffoure dores amounting to the sume of _____ xxxs

Itm the porters chamber lacking one gutter to be leaded of xxvi fote longe, one walle plate of lenght x fote, fyve borders fote bread xij fote longe, one dore and one pticon w't w'ich toguether w't the tyle stones lyme nayles the hiers of Carpenters and tylers amount- ing to the sum of _____ xl s

The kitchen lackith one wall plate throughe out of xlti fote longe, one gutter, xl rafters of x fote in lenght ev'ry rafter, w'ich toguether w't lyme nayles latte tyles stone and hiers of carpenters and workemen amountenthe to the some of _____ xxxvj's viij'd

The harnes Tow'r lackith iiij beames of xvtene fote longe the pece, liijti bourds fote brode xvij fote longe one wall plate of xvj fote longe, amounting in all repayres to— lxx's

Itm the well of the same decaied being xxxti fote in depthe _____ x.s.

The stable also this p'nte yere decaied and fallen down te the grounde which was in length xxx fotes and in bredth xvij fote, also a pece of the Castell wall this yere was decayed and fallen downe to the ground w'ich was ij fote thicke and xxti fote highe, the new building whereof in all things requisite to the same by estimacon amountithe to the sume of _____ xxxli.

The bisshops Tower lackith borders to make newe the loft of the same, being xxxj fote one way and xxxti fote thother way, w'th a new beam in the same and taking downe thereof and new making of the same and the new casting of the leads, in all things requisite by estimacon amount to the some of _____ xli.

Exr. Irr'u vijmo die Septembrie Anno Rx Evjth Qinto.

EXPLANATORY NOTES.

Let us imagine we are crossing the Castle Bridge from Castle street, and then passing through the archway of the Postern gate, which stood on the hill connecting the eastern wall of the Castle with the bishop's (Ely) Tower.

Once within the gate, we find on our left the porter's chamber. This, it will be seen, lacks a lead gutter and other repairs.

And passing on still to the left, we enter the Schequier Chamber (the Exchequer Chamber, where rents were received and accounts paid, and also where probably the Courts Baron and Courts Leet were held—the Court of Justice of the time) and ascend the stairs to the chamber over it. Some considerable repairs are needed here, including a lead gutter between the exterior Castle wall and this lodging or chamber.

There was also an Inner Chamber within this, which also needed repairs.

Next comes the kitchen, which requires a 40 feet long gutter, a wall plate of the same length, and 40 rafters of 10 feet long each.

Still keeping to the left, we enter the harness tower, which I take to be the present flagstaff tower. The repairs there required were the fixing of four beams, 15 feet long each, of wallplates and boarding for the various floors. This tower was probably the one in which bows and arrows and weapons of all kinds were kept, as well as the saddlery and trapping of the horses that occupied the stable. It was a kind of armoury, being we can conceive the most secure place within the Castle walls.

Then we meet with the Castle well, which is said to be 30 feet deep, but in a decayed state. Theo. Jones wrote “there doubtless was a well in the Castle.” We know more than that now. We have evidence that there actually was one, and that its depth was 30 feet. The well, moreover, is said to have been in a decayed state—but the exact spot where the well stood is, I believe, not known.

At one point the Castle wall itself, being 20 feet high and 3 feet thick, had fallen to the ground.

Near thereto was the stable, which had also fallen down, being in length 30 feet, and in breadth 18 feet. The rebuilding of this and the Castle wall required a large outlay.

But the heaviest cost was that of repairing the bishop's, or, as we know it, Ely Tower. This was in fact the Keep, standing on the summit of the highest mound of earth within the Castle and to the right of the Postern gate as we entered.

This tower then stood 31 feet the one way and 30 feet the other—nearly square, but how high we are not told. It was the same here as in other portions of the Castle, the walls were mostly sound, but through the decay of the lead roof, the whole of the floor in the tower had become decayed. It is interesting to learn some of the dimensions of this tower, as it was there Morton, the Bishop of Ely, was confined for months as a prisoner, and that the famous and successful project for securing the accession of Henry VII. to the throne was conceived and matured. This tower alone affords sufficient matter for an interesting historical novel.

Assuming that all the specified repairs were carried out by the Commissioners, the cost to the King may be thus summarised :—

					£	s.	d.
Repairs to	“ Schequier ” Chamber, &c.	...	...	...	7	0	0
„	Inner do.	...	...	...	1	10	0
„	Porter's do.	...	...	...	2	0	0
„	Kitchen do.	...	...	..	1	16	8
„	“ Harness ” Tower	...	..	...	8	10	0
„	Castle Well	...	..	...	0	10	0
„	Stable and Castle Wall...	...	...	...	30	0	0
„	“ bisshop's ” Tower	...	...	...	40	0	0
Total					£86	6	8

Taking the value of money to-day to be equal to twelve times the value in the reign of Edward VI., the repairs, if executed, may be said to have cost of our money, £1086.

Theo. Jones, in his History of the County, alludes to the description of the Castle by Hugh Thomas, the Herald, in 1700. Your readers must refer to Jones (New Ed. page 221 and Old Ed. Vol. II. page 106), and note what is said as to there being two watch towers at each of the four corners of the Castle walls, as to the situation of “the goodly hall with its costly pendants,” and the Chapel of St. Nicholas, and also as to the figure of the Cow in wood that stood in front of the present modern house. I can tell them about none

of these things at present, as I have not had the opportunity to study the M.S. Works of the famous Welsh Herald in the Bodleian and British Museum Libraries.

Passing on to Elizabeth's reign and that of James I., it would seem that the Castle then was falling to ruins, and that the inhabitants of the town were allowed to take the stone from the walls and use them for building purposes on their own lands, just as though it were a quarry. This was permitted by the Crown commonly in the case of dismantled castles, like Wigmore, &c., on payment of so much per load for the stones, and we find in the well known grant, 7 Chas. I. to Collins and Fenn, they were to pay to the King and his heirs "all the money for the materials of the Castle of Brecknock." And, unless rescinded, of which I am not aware that it has been, that provision of the grant is still in force. The Lordship and Castle belong to the Grantees and their successors, but if the stones of the Castle are sold, they are to be accounted for to the Crown.

The Manor of Tal y Llyn or Croft y Yarll. (CO. OF BRECON.)

AUTHORITIES.

(Exhibits shown to Sheldon Powell, witness in the suit of 1682 (see *infra*) viz., Presentments of the Court of the Manor of Tallyn in 1586 (28 Eliz.) Roger Howell, Steward, and Hugh Powell of his (?) Manor. Also Presentments of the View of Frank Pledge with the Court Baron of the Manor of Tallyllyn, alias Croft y Yarll. Thomas Williams, Lord, and David Powell, Steward in 1623 (20 James I). Proceedings in the Chancery suit, Edward Williams v Charles Jones 1682-4. Records of Court Barons and Court Leets with Presentments, 1670 (31 Car. II.) to 1714 (1 Geo. I) Edward Williams and Joshua Parry, Lords of the Manor successively. Chief Rent Account Book, Henry Williams, Seneschal (steward) 1749-55. Particulars of sale of Manor, &c., 1794. Court Leet Presentments 1807, Claude Champion Crespigny, Lord of the Manor. Inclosure Commission of Llansaintfread and Llanvillo Commons, 1814. Evidence of Witnesses, thereat, and claims made by Sir E. Hamilton, of Trebinshwn and another. Award of Commissioners with Plan showing the boundaries of the Allotments made, Parish Tithe map, 1841. Jones Hist. of Breconshire, Old. Ed. III., p. 548; New Ed., p. 438.)

The following history of this Manor has been prepared with some care from the preceding Authorities. It would seem that at all times the Lord of the Manor and the Tenants were equally anxious to preserve and protect the Common lands and the public rights of the Manor from encroachment or infringement by individuals, and that in only quite recent days has there been any attempt made to claim and appropriate as private property the common land on the summit of the Allt yr Esgir Hill. It is to be hoped that the tenants and residents (inhabitants) of the Manor will continue to assert and vindicate their claim to the common lands, and to protect rights, which are in the nature of public, and in the interests of the whole community, and I trust now, and long after my time this Paper may be of service to them to that end.

The Manor itself is of small extent, comprising the Parish of Llangasty Tal y Llyn, and though held at present by the same owner, is distinct from the adjacent manors of Blaenllynfi, Scethrog, and English and Welsh Penkelly.

Without going back to very early history, and which I have not the means at hand of tracing out, the papers in my possession show, that in the reign of Elizabeth (1586)

Roger Howell was the Steward, and Hugh Powell, either the Lord of the Manor or holding it as tenant under the Queen (the Latin expression used is *sui manerii*, and I am told it may mean "his" or "her.")

THE EXHIBITS.

Paper A.

(Papers shown to Sheldon Powell, witness, on the 25th Jan. 1682, in the suit in the Court of Exchequer between Edward Williams, gent. plt. and Charles Jones, Esq., deft.

John Price.

Henry Prichards.)

No. 1 Manor of Tallyn. 5 Oct. 28 Eliz. (1586) Names of tenants. Sir John Watkins and others.

(Imperfect.)

No. 2. Court held there 8 Aug. 28 Eliz. (1586) before Roger Howell, gent., steward of Hugh Powell of *his* manor (?)

No. 3. Court held there 24 Aug. in said year before the same.

Pleas of trespass, &c.

Pigs trespassing upon the oats (*avenas*).

No. 4. Court held there 5 Oct. in said year before same.

Pound and stocks out of repair, therefore all the tenants to be amerced.

Assault by Thomas D. D. Morgan upon Watkin Thomas and drew blood (*cum traccione sanguinis*).

No. 5. Court held there 26th Oct. in said year before same.

Pleas of trespass and breaking hedges.

No. 6. Court held 16 Nov. in said year before the same steward.

Thomas Llewellyn v. Thomas Waites, plea of trespass to the damage of 25s. for killing a horse of that value with a dog called a "mastiffe."

No. 7. Court held there 7 December 29 Eliz (1587) before said steward.

Pleas of trespass, &c. recovery of debt.

No. 8. Court held there 21 December, 29 Eliz. (1587).

Pleas of trespass.

No. 9. Court held there 18th Jan. 29 Eliz. (1587) before the same steward.

Pleas of trespass and assault.

No. 10. Court held there 8 Feb. 29 Eliz. (1587) before the same steward.

Pleas of trespass.

No. 11. Court held there 8th March 29 Eliz. (1587) before the said steward.

Trespass.

No. 12. Court held 14 June 29 Eliz. (1587), before the said steward.

Plea of debt.

No. 13. Court held there 4 July, 29 Eliz. (1587) before the said steward.

Pleas of trespass.

No. 14. Court held there 2 Aug. 29th Eliz. (1587) before the said steward.

Robert Olborn plt., versus Richard David, plea of taking and carrying away apples out of his orchard (*pomas ex pomario*) to the damage of 10s.

The jurors find him guilty and assess the damage (*dam*) at 1d. besides costs (*unum denarium ultra mis*).

No. 15. Court held there 20 September, 29 Eliz. (1587) before the said steward.

Trespases.

No. 16. Court held there 11 Oct. 29 Eliz. (1587) before the same steward.

The pound of the said manor not kept in repair, therefore all the tenants are amerced.

William Hoell, William and John Hoell presented for keeping goats contrary to the custom of said manor, therefore all of them are amerced.

We now come to a second batch of exhibits, in 21 Jas. reign (1623) when David

Powell was Steward, and Thomas Williams (clearly stated to have been) Lord of the Manor. There may have been a grant of the Manor made in the intervening period, assuming it was held by Queen Elizabeth in 1586.

Paper B.

View of frankpledge with the Court baron of Thomas Williams, gentleman, the lord, held there on the 1st day of May 21 James I. (1623) before David Powell, gentleman, steward.

- No. 1. Names of the free tenants and resiants of said manor.
Pleas of trespass, &c.
- No. 2. Court Baron of Thomas Williams, gent., held there 20 March, 20 Jas. I., before the same steward.
Pleas of debt.
- No. 3. Court baron of Thomas Williams, gent., held there 10th April, 21 Jas. I. before the same steward.
Pleas of debt.
- No. 4. Court baron of Thomas Williams, gent., held there 22 May, 20 Jas. I. before Thomas Forster, clerk.
Pleas of debt.
- No. 5. Court baron of Thomas Williams, gent., held there 12 June, 20 Jas. I., before Thomas Forster, clerk.
Pleas of debt.
- No. 6. View of frank pledge with court baron of Thomas Williams held there 24 Oct. 20 Jas. I. before David Powell, gent., steward.
Freemen of said manor.
Entry regarding repairs of highway leading from Bulch to Brecon.
- No. 7. View of frank pledge with court baron of Thomas Williams, held there 1580 22 Jas. I., before David Powell, steward.
List of free tenants and resiants.
- No. 8. View of frank pledge with court Baron of Thomas Williams, held there 30 Oct. 21 Jas. I. before the said stewards.
Presentment of parish for not mending the highway leading from the Bulch towards Brecon
- No. 9. View of frank pledge with court baron of Thomas Williams held there 28 Oct. 22 Jas. I. before the same steward.
Inquisitio Magna, i.e. Grand jury.
List of free tenants and resiants of the manor.
- No. 10. View of frank pledge with court baron of Thomas Williams held there 12 May 1 Chas. I. 1625, before the same stewards.
List of names including Hugh Morgans, clerk. (see Jones, Vol. 3, 553).
- No. 11. View of frank pledge with court baron of Thomas Williams, held there 14 Oct., 1 Chas. I., before the same steward.
List of Names. Presentments.

Here follows a series of Court Leets and Presentments made thereat from 1669 to 1714, a period of 44 years.

In 1669 (80 Car. II.) Court Leets were held, William Williams being Lord of the Manor, and Edward Williams his son, who succeeded him. William Walters was the Steward, Mathew de la Lagrange being the deputy steward.

In 1670 (81 Car. II.) the Court Leet of Edward Williams, Lord of the Manor was held, William Phillips being Seneschal.

In 1671 (82 Car. II.) a Court Leet of the same Lord was held, over which an important person, judging from his large bold signature, by name "Sheldon Powell" (the witness to whom the Exhibits were shown) presided as Steward. A number of tenants were summoned to the Court, including Sir William Lewis, described as knight and Baronet.

In 1673 a court leet was held with the same Lord and Steward, and among the presentments are the following :—

Item we doe present Theophilus John for ineroaching about three foot of land in breadth bounding the highway within the said Lordship.

Item we doe present Watkin John for eneroaching about six yards of the Common called Allt within the said Lordship.

1680. There appears also to have been a court leet held on Oct. 20, 1680, when similar presentments to the above were again made, but the names of the lord of the manor and of the steward are not entered.

1682. Disputes appear now to have arisen as to what services were properly due by the tenants to the Lord, and we find that in 1682, a man of substance within the Manor, Charles Jones, of Trebinshwn, Gent., and who had been High Sheriff of the County in 1681, refused to perform the services required.

These disputes led to the Chancery Suit of 1682 between Edward Williams, Lord of the said Manor, and the said Charles Jones, as a tenant of the Manor. The points at issue were many, but chiefly related to services to be performed annually in helping to plough the Lord's land and to harvest his corn.

By a copy of the Decree in the case, dated 4th Sept. 1684, it will be seen that Edward Williams did exhibit his English Bill against Charles Jones, setting forth that the complainant and his father William Williams before him, had for 40 years past been seized of the Manor of Llangasty Tal y Llyn, otherwise Croft y Yarl, and that about 800 aeres of waste land, and 40 tenements, including that of Charles Jones the defendant were comprised within the manor. And then the Bill proceeded to set forth the matters complained of.

There appears to have been the usual Commission *de bene esse* to take the evidence of aged and infirm witnesses, followed by a trial at Hereford, and other legal proceedings, before which were concluded Charles Jones, the defendant, died. The suit was then revived against his brother, Edmund Jones, and in 1684 the decree referred to was issued, by which it was ordered that the defendant and all other tenants of the manor were required to pay heriots and alienation fees, to give one day's ploughing to the Lord in the autumn, and another in the spring, and to give one day to harvest the Lord's corn if called upon to do so.

1684. This ended the litigation, and on April 26 1684, an important court leet was held before William Williams, gent. steward.

At this Court a full list or Rent roll of the Chief Rents and Comorth due to the Lord were set forth "to the best of the knowledge of the Jury." The chief rents are stated to be payable, some at Michaelmas, some at the Feast of the Nativity (Christmas Day), and others at the Feast of the Annunciation (25th March or Lady Day) Comorth was payable every second year in the month of May. The Jury then proceed to present heriots of the best beast due on the death of various tenants, including one on the death of the Charles Jones previously referred to. They also present the alienation fine of 7/- due on the change of a tenancy, and then proceed thus :—

Item we present plowing in two days, viz., one in the spring time of the year or Lent crops sown, and the other in the autumn or fall of the year about Michaelmas, and one day reaping in corn harvest upon due notice.

Item we present the defect of a pound, and *cucking stool in the Manor.

It would appear that Rachel, the daughter and heiress of William Williams, and sister of Edward Williams, the previous Lords successively, married Joshua Parry, a son of the well known family of Parry of Llandeuaelog Tre'graig, and brought to him the Lordship of the Manor, and we now find his name as Lord of the Manor for several years. Joshua Parry was High Sheriff for the county in 1724.

1695. The first Court Leet of the new Lord, Joshua Parry, of which we have a record, was held in 1695 (9 Wm. & Mary) before Phillip Williams, Seneschal or Steward of the Manor.

* Cucking stool is an engine invented for the punishment of Scolds and unquiet women, called in ancient times a Tumbrell. It was usually kept in charge of the Court Leet.—*Cowell's Interpreter.*

The tenants attended and the Jury sworn and a presentment of the admission of a new tenant to the manor made.

1700. The next Court Leet of Joshua Parry, Lord of the Manor, appears to have been held in May, 1700 (11 Wm. and Mary) before Henry Williams, Seneschal.

The Jurors names are entered, and a number of the usual presentments were made, including the want of a stocks and whipping post within the Lordship.

1701. On Oct. 23, 1701 (12 Wm. & Mary) the court leet of Joshua Parry was held before Henry Williams, Gent., Seneschal.

A full list of Jurors is entered on the Minutes, and various presentments were made, and *inter alia* :

Item we present Gwennlian John for keeping goats upon the Common called Allt yr Yskir within this Lordship.

Item we present Mary the wife of Thomas Price, and Gwennlian, the wife of John Richard for being common hedgebreakers.

Item we present the want of a stocks and whipping post within this Lordship.

Item we present Thomas Bevan, of Blaenllonwy, Isaac Williams of the same place, and William Thomas for breaking the pound and taking there hence cattel.

(Thomas Madocke, Gent., and Thomas Perrott are among the jurors who attended.)

1679. On the back of this paper there are some entries made at a court leet held on May 14, 1679, but before what steward is not stated.

The names of the Jury are, however, given, and there are a number of presentments.

As to the encroachment on the common land.

„ Want of stocks and whipping post

„ The moiety of the common land adjoining Llanvihangel Parish being within this Lordship of Taly llyn.

„ John Prosser encroaching land adjoining to his own land.

„ John Davids encroaching land adjoining his own garden.

„ Watkin John encroaching land $\frac{1}{2}$ acre or less adjoining the Common called, The Allt.

1702. A court leet of the same Lord, Joshua Parry, was held in October, 1702 (13 Wm. & Mary) before Henry Williams, Seneschal.

Adjourned to December 7 of the same year.

At the adjourned Court various presentments were made, including the defect of a Stocks and of Whipping post, Henry Williams being Seneschal.

1704. At a Court Leet held in 1704 (2 Anne) the presentment as to Stocks and Whipping post was again made. (No Steward's name.)

1705. Court Leet of Joshua Parry, Lord of the Manor held in 1705 (3 Anne) before Henry Williams-Seneschal.

Only name of Jury given, apparently no presentments made.

1706. Court Leet held in 1706 (4 Anne). Same Lord and Steward.

Presentments made as to defect of pound, Stocks and Whipping post.

1707. Court Leet held in 1707 (5 Anne) same Lord and Steward. Jurors attended and present alienations of lands, and default in attendance of the Tenants of the Manor.

1708. Court Leet held in 1708 (6 Anne) same Lord and Steward. One Tenant was admitted to the Manor.

1710. Court Leet of Joshua Parry, Lord of the Manor, held in 1710 (8 Anne) before John Howell, Sub-Seneschal, or Sub-Steward.

Various presentments were made by the Jury as to heriots on death, alienations, and the usual one as to defect of pound, Stocks and Whipping post within the Lordship.

Item we doe present the want of a nett for taking and destroying of Crows within the Manor, and that the same ought to be made at the expense of the Parish of Llangasty Taly llyn.

[By 24 Henry VIII. cap. 10, an Act passed "For the destruction of Crows and Rooks."

It was enacted that having regard to the serious destruction of corn and grain of all kinds, and over that, of the covertures of thatched houses, barns, etc. by the innumerable number of rooks, crows, and choughs then existing in the land, every

person possessed of a Manor or estate of inheritance is required to do everything in his power to destroy the said birds, especially in the breeding season, and every parish, town, hamlet, etc. is required to provide crow nets during the next ten years. And the taker of crows was to be paid at the rate of 2d. for every twelve old crows, 1d. for every six, and $\frac{3}{4}$ d. for every three, the same to be paid by the farmer or owner of land.

This Statute was repealed by 14 Elz. Cap. II., except so far as concerneth the provision, use and maintenance of nets and "Shrops" for the destruction of crows, etc.

I do not think I have seen more than one such entry before. It was in the presentment of the adjacent manor of Scethrog in 29 Eliz. 1586, as to the wants of "crow nets" (*retia corvum*) and also of "les buttes" (for bowmen), and I do not recollect that I have met with the entry of a "cucking stool" previously.]

1713. A Court Leet was held on Saturday, being the 25th October, 1713 (10 Anne) the same Lord of the Manor and Stewards.

The Tenants attended, and were sworn as Jurors. Various presentments were made.

1714. Court Leet held on the 22nd October. 1714 (12 Anne), the same Lord of the Manor and Steward.

The names of the Jurors sworn are entered and a list of the presentments.

Imprimis we present that a footway leading from the Mansion house to the Parsonage within the said Manor or through a field called Close dd Myrick is no common highway, but a byway at the will and permission of the Lord of the said Manor.

Item we present Robert Perott for setting and erecting rayles or barriers upon a way leading from the highway, as well as to the lands of Wm. Thomas and other inhabitants within the said lordship, by reason whereof the tenants of the said Manor are much hindered in the use of the said way to serve (?) and manure their lands.

Amerced for the time past and to remove the nuisance within a month on pain of fine.

1714. Court Leet held in 1714 (1 Geo. I.) the same Lord and Steward.

The Tenants attended and were sworn as Jurors, various presentments were made, and *inter alia*.

Item we present Robert Perott for encroaching about a quarter of an acre of land upon the Common within the said Lordship, and thereby stopping a way, which leads to the lands of Wm. Thomas within the said Lordship.

Item we present Thomas Vaughan for diverting an ancient watercourse running from Maes y ffynon to the highway within the said Lordship.

Robert Perott was amerced 20/- for the encroachment for the past two years and to remove the same before January 1 next on pain of 40/-.

Thomas Vaughan was amerced 18/4 for diverting the water, and ordered to restore the same to its ancient course before December 1st next on 20/- penalty.

[Here our records of the Court Leets of this Manor, for the present, cease.]

It is stated by the County Historian, that there was a tablet affixed to the eastern end of the Parish Church, stating that Joshua Parry of Taly Llyn died on May 8, 1729, which would be the year after he had served the office of High Sheriff, and Jones adds that Mary, the daughter of his grandson. James Parry, brought the Manor and the Tallyllyn property (on her marriage) to Richard Lewis of Courtygollen. The only daughter and heiress, Mary, of this marriage, married Richard Davies, who thus became owner of both the Courtygollen estate and of that of the Manor and estate of Llangasty Tallyllyn; and we find that from 1762 to 1773 a Richard Davies, probably the same, was owner of the adjacent manor of Blaenllynfi, Pennoyre Watkins, the well-known Solicitor of Brecon being the Steward, and holding Court Barons regularly.

There are no records extant of any Courts Leets held for the Llangasty Taly llyn manor from 1714 to 1795, during the greater portion of which time the family of Davies were the Lords. But we have a Manorial receipt account book kept by Henry Williams, Steward from 1749 to 1755, which shows that whether or not Court Leets were held, the

chief rents and comorth due to the Lord of the Manor, were regularly paid and accounted for to the Lord. This book is now before me, and was evidently thought something of by the new owner of the manor, by purchase, in 1795, as it bears the book plate of Philip Champion Crespigny, with coat of arms and motto "Mens conscia recti."

It appears by the "particulars of sale" published by Mr. Christie that there would be sold by auction at his Great Room in Pall Mall on Wednesday, June 18th, 1794, at one o'clock, a large Breconshire estate comprising the manors of Llangasty Talyllyn and Blaenllynfi, forming a circuit of at least 20 miles, and including the three neighbouring parishes. The waste lands were stated to be upwards of 1500 acres in extent, and the enclosed freehold lands upwards of 2000 acres, yielding a rental of £1,600 a year.

The owner's name is not given in the Particulars (as by some stupid custom was then, as it is now, the rule) but we know that this estate belonged to the Richard Davies we have spoken of as the owner of Courtygollen, and Lord of the Llangasty Talyllyn Manor. There is no plan attached, and the tenant's name with the acreage and the rent of their holding is given but not the names of the Farms.

Of this large property (or the greater part of it) Mr Philip Champion Crespigny became the purchaser in 1795. And with the readiness with which new comers into the county, as the saying is, "new men and old acres," are usually nominated, either at their own suggestion or otherwise, he was nominated High Sheriff in the following year, 1796. The possession of broad acres is the ready passport to that high office.

Apparently in 1807, the estate was in the hands of Trustees, namely, the son, Claude Champion Crespigny, Richard Scott, and Stafford Squire Baxter, and on their behalf, as joint Lords of the Manor, a Court Leet was held at Talyllyn House on 26 May, 1807.

There were then various presentments made, and among others:

Item we present an encroachment made by Theophilus Williams of a piece of waste ground on the side of the road leading from Talyllyn House to Breccn.

In 1812 the above Claude Champion Crespigny was appointed High Sheriff for the County.

We now come to an important event, the Inclosure, under the provisions of a Special Act of Parliament, of that part of the open Common of Allt yr Eskir Hill which lay in the parish of Llansaintfread, of about, roughly speaking, 100 acres in extent, Thynne Howe Gwynne, of Buckland, and the Crown claiming to be joint lords of the Manor.

The position of the grazing rights as regards these two parishes seems previously to have been as follows. The whole of the common lands on the Allt yr Eskir hill—30 acres in Llangasty, and 100 acres in Llansaintfread, about 130 acres in extent—was open and unenclosed and undivided, and there is little doubt that the sheep of the two parishes intermingled on the top. And probably when a gale was blowing from the south west, the Llansaintfread sheep passed over the brow to the sheltered side, and in fine weather, and when the sun shone, the Llangasty sheep came in turn over the border to their neighbours' common. This, it will be seen, is the tenor and effect of the evidence given by witnesses from Llangasty before the Inclosure Commissioners.

At this inquiry, it may be here remarked, the Commissioners found that Mr. Thynne Howe Gwynne was the sole Lord of the Manor, the Crown having no interest, and further that the claim of the Llangasty Talyllyn Commoners to a share in the division of the common land of Llansaintfread on the Allt Hill could not be held good. On the other hand there was of course no interference with their own 30 acres of common land within their parish, and that remained intact, though divided off, for their common use, as before.

The following is the evidence taken before the Commissioners to which I have referred.

LLANSAINTFREAD AND LLANVILLO INCLOSURE AWARD, 1814.

EVIDENCE TAKEN.

Thomas Davies lived at Ty Gwyn and Cynhordy Farms in the Parish of Llangasty Talyllyn. He remembers his father turning sheep up to the Allt yr Eskir without any interruption. He did so every year. Latterly he had about 60 head there. Never heard

of any interruption. His father held another farm, called the North, but the sheep were from Tygwyn and Cynyhordy.

William Jones was servant to the father of previous witness. During the whole time, Mr. Davies turned his sheep on Alltyr Eskir, and Mr. William Brewer who succeeded Mr. Davies also turned his sheep there. Mr. Brewer held no other farm but Tygwyn. Never heard of any interruption.

John Parry was with his father in 1795. His father rented the two Trebinshwn Farms from Sir Edward Hamilton, and his brother rented them afterwards. Every year they were accustomed to turn a small number of sheep to the Allt yr Eskir Common. Both his father and brother exercised the right. Never knew of any interruption. They used to turn the rest of the sheep to Cefn Mole Common in the Parish of Cathedine. When they turned the sheep on the Allt they sometimes turned them to the part of it, which is in Llangasty Talyllyn, and continues to the part in the Parish of Llansaintfread.

Henry Moseley rented Scybor Newydd farm in 1809. Some of his sheep used to get upon the Allt. He considered that they had a right there.

EXTRACTS FROM AWARD AS TO ABUTTALS OF THE ALLOTMENTS.

TO JOHN JONES.

Allotments Nos. 40, 41, 42, 43, 44 AND 45.

Bounded by the carriage roads, Nos. 11 and 12 on the west, and on all other parts and sides thereof by waste lands in the Parish of Llangasty Talyllyn, and by an allotment herein awarded to Thynne Howe Gwynne, the elder.

TO LANCELOT MORGAN.
Allotment No. 47.

Bounded in part by the said waste lands in the said parish of Llangasty Talyllyn.

TO THYNNE HOWE GWYNNE AS LORD OF THE MANOR.
Allotment No. 31.

Bounded in part by the waste lands in the said parish of Llangasty Talyllyn.

TO DO. AS LORD OF THE MANOR.
Allotment No. 32.

Bounded in part by the waste lands situate in the said parish of Llangasty Talyllyn.

Sir Edward Hamilton submitted his claim to allotments on the Llansaintfread Common in the parishes of Llangasty and Llansaintfread, in respect of his estate of 768 acres, consisting of Trebinshon and Treberfed, &c. mainly in the parish of Llangasty Talyllyn. Miss Hughes, through her tenant, Mr. Brewer, claimed in right of Ty Gwyn in the Parish of Llangasty Talyllyn.

It would seem that the Commissioners disallowed these claims, so far as concerned the Alltyr Eskir Common within the Parish of Llansaintfread.

The rights of common on the waste lands of Alltyr Eskir within the limits of the Parish of Llangasty Talyllyn then remained as they had been, and were unaffected by the proceedings of the Commissioners, and the award made by them.

Mr. Charles Fox Champion Crespigny, being Lord of the Manor of Llangasty Talyllyn, and owner of the Tymawr estate, made no claim in respect of his Talyllyn property, but only in respect of his lands at Pennorth within the parish of Llansaintfread.

And you find to-day on the Parish Tithe Map of Llangasty Talyllyn, the lands

mentioned and described above, as the Waste Lands of the Parish, mapped and described thereon in the same manner, i.e., as the waste or common lands of the Parish

In 1686 Mr. Crespigny advertised his Tallylyn property, including the Manor, and also the Blaenllynfi Manor and Cathedine estate for sale, and after considerable negotiation, Colonel James Price Gwynne Holford, of Buckland and Kilgwyn became the purchaser in 1837. On his death, in 1846, the Manors and Estates descended to his eldest son, James Price Gwynne Holford, the present owner.

And it is a matter of common knowledge that Mr. Gwynne Holford a few years ago claimed the 30 acres of land on the Allt yr Eskir Hill as his absolute private freehold property, and enclosed it with a barbed wire fence, so far as to prevent any access thereto from the Pennorth end.

Assuming the evidence of the Presentments at the Court Leets previously quoted as to encroachments made on the Allt yr Eskir hill, and the evidence of the witnesses before the Inclosure Commissioners to be faithfully reported, it would seem to be conclusively proved that, down to 1814 at least, the land had been treated and considered as common land by the successive Lords of the Manor and their tenants. And though perhaps not strictly evidence, the Parish Map of 1841 conveys with it to all reasonable persons the moral proof that the land was still so regarded at the date when the Parish Map was made.

And that, therefore, as there has been no Inclosure Act passed relating to this common land, any change in the character of it from common or waste land to private freehold must have taken place during the lifetime and ownership of the present Mr. Gwynne Holford, of Buckland.

The value of the land, which is exposed and stony, cannot for grazing purposes be more than 2/6 an acre as yearly rent, or say a capital sum of £120. But to the lovers of beautiful views and scenery, and to many of the inhabitants around for an occasional healthful and pleasant walk to the summit, the preservation of this summit ridge of the Allt Hill as an open space is of great value. It has always been so open until recently, and let no expense or trouble be spared to preserve it as such for ever.

Old Lease of Land in Cathedine Parish--1617.

(BLACKMOOR COMMON.)

This Indenture made the ninth day of Aprill 1617 in the yeres of the raigne of our soveraigne lord James by the grace of God of England Scotland ffrance and Ireland, Kinge Defender of the faith &c. that is to say of England ffrance and Ireland the fifteenth and of Scotland the fiftieth Between Sir Henrie Williams of Gwernevet in the Countie of Brecon Knight of the one parte, And William Vaughan and Roger Prosser gentlemen, Phillipp John Howell, Watkin Prosser John, Watkin Thomas Watkin, William John Howell, David Prosser Jevan, Jevan Thomas, John Lewes Watkin, David ap Jevan, Jevan David Willim, Lewes Watkin, John ap John Jevan, John Thomas Lloyd, John Thomas Lewes, Thomas Lawrence, Roger Prosser Lewes, Edward John Rosser, Lewes Edmond Lewes, John Lewes Howell, John Howell ap Jevan, Thomas Jevan William David, Lewes Edmond Rosser, John Jevan Wm. David, Jenkin John Howell, and Thomas ap Prees Lewes, yeomen all of the parish of Kathedine in the said Countie of Brecon of the other parte; Witnesseth that the said Sir Henrie Williams for diverse good causes and consideracions him thereunto speciallie moveinge, hath demised graunted and to farne letten and by these

presents doth demise graunt lett and to farme sett unto the said William Vaughan, Roger Prosser, Phillipp John Howell, Watkin Prosser John, Watkin Thomas Watkin, William John Howell, David Prosser Jevan, Jevan Thomas, John Lewes Watkin, David ap Jevan, Jevan David Willm, Lewes Watkin, John ap John Jevan, John Thomas Lloyd, John Thomas Lewes, Thomas Lawrence, Roger Prosser Lewis, Edward John Rosser, Lewes Edmond Lewes, John Lewes Howell, John Howell Jevan, Thomas Jevan Wm. David, Lewes Edmond Rosser, John Jevan Wm. David, Jenkin John Howell, and Thomas Prees Lewes, and to their heires and assigns All that part and parcell of land and pasture with the appurtenances conteyninge by estimacion ffortie acres be it more or lesse which nowe is or heretofore was parcell of the demesne lands of the Lordshippe of Dynas and Blaenlloveney in the said Countie and was sometime demised to Thomas Vaughan Esq. beinge parcell and latelie enclosed and drawne into severalltie out of a certeine pasture ground comonly called or knowne by the name of Blackmore within the parish of Kathedin and in the lordshippe of Dynas and Blaenlloveney aforesaid for ye depasturinge of their beasts cattles there hereafter specified and expressed from time to time dureinge the tearme hereby graunted and demised vidz the said William Vaughan to have the depasturinge of fflower beasts, Roger Prosser six beasts, Phillipp John Howell three beasts, Watkin Prosser John three beasts, Watkin Thomas Watkin three beasts, William John Howell three beasts, David Prosser Jevan three beasts, Jevan Thomas three beasts, John Lewes Watkin three beasts, David ap Jevan three beasts, Jevan David Willm two beasts, Lewes Watkin two beasts, John ap John Jevan two beasts, John Thomas Lloyd two beasts, John Thomas Lewes two beasts, Thomas Lawrence two beasts, Rosser Prosser Lewes two beasts, Edward John Rosser two beasts, Lewes Edmond Lewes two beasts, John Lewes Howell two beasts, John Howell ap Jevan two beasts, Thomas Jevan Wm. David one beast, Lewes Edmond Rosser one beast, John Jevan Wm. David one beast, Jenkin John Howell one beast, and Thomas Prees Lewes one beast, To have and to farme hould the said parcell of land and pasture with the appurtenances unto the said William Vaughan, Roger Prosser, Phillipp John Howell, Watkin Prosser John, Watkin Thomas Watkin, William John Howell, David Prosser Jevan, Jevan Thomas, John Lewes, Watkin, David ap Jevan, Jevan David Wm. Lewes Watkin, John ap John Jevan, John Thomas Lloyd, John Thomas Lewes, Thomas Lawrence, Roger Prosser Lewes, Edward John Rosser Lewes Edmond Lewes, John Lewes Howell, John Howell Jevan, Thomas ap Jevan William David, Lewes Edmond Rosser, John Jevan William David, Jenkin John Howell, and Thomas Prees Lewes, their heires and assigns from the feast day of the Purification of St. Marie the Virgine last past before the date of these presentes for and dureinge the tearme of one thousand yeares from thence forth next immediatlly ensueinge and fullie to be compleate and ended. Yealdinge and paying therefore yearelie dureinge the said tearme unto the said Sir Henrie Williams his heires and assigns the summe of fflower pounds of lawfull money of England on the first day of August yearelie, And alsoe yealdeinge and paying unto the said Sir Henrie Williams his heires and assigns the summe of fflower pounds fine of like lawfull money for and att the end of everie Threescore yeares dureinge the said tearme to be payd uppon the afforesaid first day of August next before the end of everie of the said threescore yeares if the same shall be lawfullie demaunded, And if it shall happen the said yerelie rent of fflower pounds payable yearelie as aforesaid or the said fflower pounds fine payeable at the end of everie threescore yeares dureinge the said tearme as aforesaid or anie parte thereof to be behinde and unpaid after anie feast day att and uppon which it ought to be payd as aforesaid being lawfullie demaunded, That then and at all times then after such default of payment it shall and may be lawfull unto and for the said Sir Henrie Williams his heires and assigns unto the aforesaid demised premises to re-enter and there to distraine for the same and for all the arrerages thereof which shall happen to be, and the distresse and distresses there found to take leade drive and carrie away, and the same to detaine and keepe with him and them untill such time as he or they shall or may be fullie satisfied and payd of the said rent and fine soe [in] arreare and of all arrerages thereof, And that if noe sufficient distresse or distresses can or may be then found for the same in or uppon the said demised premises or anie parte thereof That then and from thenceforth this present Lease shall be voyd, and that it shall

and may be lawfull unto and for the said Sir Henrie Williams his heires and assignes unto the said demised premisses with the appurtenances to re-enter and the same to have againe repossesse and enjoy as in his or theire former estate this present Indenture or anie thinge herein conteyned to the contrarie notwithstandinge; provided alwayes and it is neverthesse Covenanted graunted condiscended and agreed by and between the said parties and theire true intent and meaninge is, And soe the said Sir Henrie Williams doth for the considerations aforesaid for him his heires and assignes Covenant promise and graunte to and with the said William Vaughan, Roger Prosser, Philipp John Howell, Watkin Prosser John, Watkin Thomas Watkin, William John Howell, David Prosser Jevan, Jevan Thomas, John Lewes Watkin, David ap Jevan, Jevan David William, Lewes Watkin, John ap John Jevan, John Thomas Lloyd, John Thomas Lewes, Thomas Lawrence, Roger Prosser Lewes, Edward John Rosser, Lewes Edmond Lewes, John Lewes Howell, John Howell ap Jevan, Thomas Jevan William David, Lewes Edmond Rosser, John Jevan Wm. David, Jenkin John Howell, and Thomas ap Prees Lewes, and theire severall and respective heires and assigns and everie of them by these presents That they and everie of them theire and everie of theire severall and respective heires and assigns shall from time to time and att all times hereafter dureinge the tearme (notwithstandinge this demise and Lease made of the said lands and pasture enclosed) have and enjoy all such and the like libertie and benefitt of Common of herbage pasture and pwnadge in all the rest and residue of the said Common called Blackmoore not enclosed nor hereby demised as they the said Lessees have heretofore severallie had and enjoyed or which they or theire severall heires or assigns hereafter of right ought to have had and enjoyed if this present demise had not bin had or made, And further that the said respective parties Lessees and theire heires and assigns shall have and enjoy the benefitt of this present Lease, and demised premisses with the appurtenances and the said herbage pasture and Common of pasture hereby demised or graunted, And that noe executor or administrator of anie of the said Lessees before named shall have anie interest therein dealeinge therewith or benefitt thereby but the heire and heires or assignes of them the said respective Lessees successivelie shall have and enjoy the same as appendant and belonginge to the respective messuadge lands or tenementes which they the said Lessees doe nowe severallie hould and enjoy under the said Sir Henrie Williams within the parish of Kathedine aforesaid And lastlie that he the said Sir Henrie Williams and his heires all and singular the premisses with theire appurtenances hereby demised and graunted as aforesaid unto the said severall and respective lessees and theire severall and respective heires and assignes under the rent fine and covenants aforesaid against him and his heires and assignes shall and will warrant acquite and defend dureinge all the said tearme, In witnes whereof the parties above said to these present Indentures interchangeablie have put their hands and seales the day and yeare above written 1617.

HENRY WILLIAMS.

Sealed and delivered in the Presence of

Thomas Vaughan of Llanvigan
Howell Thomas de Brecon
William Powell de Llanvigan
Roger Lloyd de Llangomarch
John Thomas de Brecon
Roger Phillipp de Llanigon.

Copia verá

David Morgan.

Wm. Jones.

Jo. Perott.

[Endorsed.] A lease of 1000 years from Sir Henry Wm. of Gwernevet Knight to ye several tenants of Cathedine of ye common Enclosed and Cald ye Blackmoore in ye Lordship of Dinas and Blaenlloveney att ye Rent of 4li (£4) per annum and 4li (£4) fine every 60 years. Dated ye 9th April, 1617.

Within recent times a Common, situate at the upper end of Llangorse Lake, and of about twelve acres in extent, known as Blackmoore Common, was enclosed and divided under the provisions of the Cathedine Inclosure Act of 1859. The Common lay in a marshy bottom by the Llynfi stream, and the use of it for grazing purposes had long been much valued by the poorer inhabitants of the neighbourhood. It is a pity, I think, to find all such open spaces enclosed one after the other, but so it is nowadays, and this one at Blackmoore had to go the way of the rest.

But the deed, given above, refers to a long antecedent private arrangement, that of the appropriation or inclosure of some forty acres of the demesne lands of the Lordship of Dynas and Blaenllynfi, which lay near to Blackmoore Common, in the year 1617.

It appears that the twenty six tenants of the Manor named in the foregoing Indenture had, by consent of the Lord or otherwise, enclosed these forty acres of pasturage, and were then given a lease of the land for 1000 years by Sir Henry Williams, Knight, of Gwernyfed, the then Lord of the Manors of Dinas and Blaenllynfi.

The conditions of this very long lease were the payment of an annual rent of £4, and of a fine of £4 at the end of every sixty years, and that the right to this Common of pasture was to be appendant to the holdings of the persons named therein and their heirs. The right could only be enjoyed in connexion with tenements held of the Manor. In case of failure in payment of rent or fine, a power of re-entry was reserved to Sir Henry Williams and his successors, as Lords of the Manor.

Can any one throw some light on this strange old Indenture, the like of which I have never heard of in Breconshire! The conditions of such were almost certain to entail a forfeiture in two or three generations, but it is just possible that some lands near to the modern Blackmoore Common, are still held under this 1000 years lease, and that some reference was made thereto when the Inclosure of the remaining twelve acres was recently effected. Who can peer into the dark chamber of the history of Blackmoore Common lands?

The Forest of Bucklyd or Buckland.

And here is another dark chamber in the past history of our County!

It is stated in an old paper, used in the trial at Hereford in 1816, Thynne Howe Gwynne of Buckland, v. C. C. Clifton of Tymawr—a trial which was the precursor of a ten years litigation between the parties, ending at last in a compromise and a drawn battle—that though diligent search had been made, “no antient documents can be found to throw any light upon the origin of the Penkelly Manors” or other adjacent ones held by the Gwynne of Buckland family. This old document is now before me, as I write, and though silent as to the origin of the Manors, has proved a very treasure house of valuable knowledge in other respects.

Again, when the Inclosure Act of 1814 was being passed for enclosing the waste lands of Buckland Hill, Allt-yr-Eskir and Alltville, it appears that the Crown and Mr. Thynne Howe Gwynne claimed to be joint lords of the Manor of those waste lands. Subsequently, however, when the Commissioners came down, they, after holding an Inquiry, declared in their Award, that the claim of the Crown could not be maintained, and that Mr. Thynne Howe Gwynne was the sole Lord of the Manor. This of itself is a proof what great doubt existed then as to the origin and boundaries of the Penkelly Manors, so far at least as regards the north side of the Usk. And I feel sure the promoters of the Inclosure Act of 1814 did not know much about the question, nor did they take the trouble to make any special inquiries—and the Act was obtained as we have seen, on the erroneous assumption that there were two joint Lords of the Manor.

The accidental discovery the other day of the old papers relating to Bogheled or Bucklyd Forest (or Buckland) is quite a revelation, and opens up a new and wide field for Inquiry!

Where was Bogheled Forest? We know that it was in the vicinity of Llansaintfread Parish, if not a part of it, because the inhabitants were granted for ever the right of turning their cattle there for pasture free of charge, and we know also that it was part of the Lordship of Brecknock, possessed by Harry, Duke of Buckingham, in 1482, and by Queen Elizabeth in 1595. Where located then was this Forest, and what has been its history from 1595 downwards? We have it on record that in that year David Phillip and Evan Madocke, of Llansaintfread, fought at law against the Crown for the preservation of their right of free pasturage, and won the day—but what since!

There I must leave the question for the present. I am not able to say what were the boundaries of this Forest, and which lands they included, and without that knowledge it would not be fair to hazard conjectures. This may, however, be said, that when in 1595, the release of the payment of 7s. yearly was confirmed by the Crown as the result of the decision in favour of the Commoners, there was no object to be gained afterwards, even in keeping the name of the Forest on the books of the Crown. It may have then in this way dropped out of the Crown's list of properties once and for ever, and subsequently it fell into the possession of the first person that set up a claim to this no man's land!

The following Documents will be given in order of date:—Grant of the Free Pasturage of the Forest to the inhabitants of Llansaintfread by Harry Duke of Buckingham in 1482. Subsequent grant to Thomas ap Hoell Bynon by Letters Patent of Eliz. 1585. Pleadings in the Suit, Madocke v. Gwynne. The Decree of the Court of Exchequer in 1595, establishing the legality of the Grant made in 1482.

FOREST OF BOGHELED OR BUCKLAND, BRECONSHIRE.

THE DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM'S WARRANT FOR DISCHARGE OF 7s. OF RENT.

[South Wales Inrolments, Vol. 5. fo. 83.]

Harry Duke of Buckingham, Earl of Hereford, Stafford and Northampton to John Counter or Auditor of our lordship of Brecknock, greeting.

Whereas we have heretofore been answered in the accounts of our receiver of our said lordship of 7s. yearly for the farm of our forest of Bogheled within our said lordship, and that we for divers considerations have released the said yearly farm to the behoof of our tenants and resiants of our said lordship for evermore.

We charge you that in the account of the said receiver you allow the sum of 7s. of the farm of the said forest for the year ending at Michaelmas last, and that yearly from henceforth you discharge the said receiver of the said farm for ever.

And this our writing shall be to you sufficient warrant and discharge in that behalf.

The 10th day of January, 21 Edw. IV. (1482).

H. BUKINGHM (HARRY BUCKINGHAM).

LAND REVENUE OFFICE.

VOL. 4. FO. 161. [No DATE.]

"OCCUPATORS OF FOREST DE BOGHELED."

Meredd Nicholas	Roger William
Thomas Nicholas	DD ap Richeurde ap llanke
Thomas Powell dd	DD William th elder
Watkin dd Lloyd	DD William the yonger
Thomas ap Jevan Hoell	Harry John
Thomas Powell Jenkin	Jevan Maddocke ap Jevan Watkin
Watkin Probarte	William Pricharde
Jenkin John	John Hoell Goz
Jevan Jenkin Phillpott	Edmunde Hoell Goz
Roger Hoell	

LAND REVENUE OFFICE.

VOL. 4. Fo. 36.

[TRANSLATION.]

LETTERS PATENT FOR THOMAS AP HOELL BYNON.

Elizabeth by the grace of God, &c. Know ye that We for divers causes and considerations Us now moving by the advice of Our beloved and faithful Counsellors William Baron de Burghley Our Treasurer of England and Walter Mildmay, Knight, Chancellor of Our Exchequer have granted to Thomas ap Hoell Bynon all that Our herbage and pasture growing in the park called Parke Llinde in the vill of Castle called Painscastell in the co. Radnor.

And all that Our forest of Boughled alias Boughbed in Our county of Brecon now or late in the tenure or occupation of John ap Owin Gunter or his assigns, parcel of the possessions of Edward late Duke of Buckingham, attainted of high treason.

Also all the lands, meadows, feedings, pastures, &c., &c., to the said premises belonging for the rents herein below reserved always excepting nevertheless and reserving to Us, Our heirs and successors all large trees, woods, underwoods, mines and quarries : To have and to hold all the said premises to the said Thomas ap Hoell Bynon for 21 years, paying therefore yearly to Us and Our heirs for the said herbage 13s., and for the said forest of Bughled 7s.

And We also grant to the said Thomas that he may from time to time take sufficient hedgeboote, ploughboote and cartboote growing on the premises to be used there and not elsewhere.

Witness, &c., at Westminster 16 July, 27 Eliz. [1585.]

BUGLYD (OR BUCKLAND) FOREST CASE, 1595.

PHILLIP AND OTHERS V. GWYNNE.

PLEADINGS IN THIS EXCHEQUER SUIT.

The Bill of complaint was signed by "David Phe (Phillip), Evan Madocke, Richard Howell, Wyllyam Pritchard, John Wyllyam John, and Wyllyam John Howell, every of them beinge Tenante or occupor of certen parcelles of ground lyings within Her Majesty's Lordship of Brecknocke, called the Forest of Bughlyd, as well as for and on the behalf of themselves, as of the residue of the Tenantes and occupors of the same Foreste, amounting to the number of 60 persons or more, and all of them beinge Her Majesty's Tenantes, as of her highness Honor or Lordship of Brecknocke."

The Bill then sets out, that up to the time of 21 Edward IV., their predecessors had held of the Lordship of Brecknock the profit and herbage of the said Forest in fee farm of 7s. a year from Henry, Duke of Buckingham, and in that year (1482) the said Duke (afterwards in the time of King Richard III. attainted of High Treason) by sufficient deed in law did exonerate his tenants and resiants of the said Lordship and their heirs for evermore from the payment of the 7s. paid for the Forest; and also further that by his special warrant in writing, under the signet and sign manual, ready to be shewed forth to the Court, dated January 10th, 21 Edward IV., he charged his auditor to give allowance of that discharge in future. The Bill then proceeds to state that for nearly 120 years since that date, the tenants and resiants have peaceably enjoyed the said forest as an estate of inheritance without paying any manner of rent for the same until now, when by some "casual means" the said release and other evidences touching the (suppliants) title to the inheritance of the soil of the said Forest were lost out of the possession of some of the aforesaid tenants who had the custody of them.

On which happening one Thomas Howell ap Eignon and Richard Gwynne, gent., procured a lease for a term of years of the said Forest from Her Majesty, and not only

threatened to molest the suppliants in their enjoyment of the Forest, but had levied £8. 8s. of arrearages supposed to be due. The deed of release being lost (though, as above stated, the warrant to the Duke of Buckingham's auditor was in their possession) the suppliants pleaded the Statute of 33 Henry VIII., and claimed under that Statute to have their case heard in equity, inasmuch as while they had only a doubtful remedy at common law, they had "reason and good conscience" on their side.

Upon this Bill of complaint being filed a writ de subpena was issued calling on Richard Gwynne to make his answer thereto.

The Bill is indorsed :—

"Fiat breve de subpena secundum formam istui petitionis," i.e., that a writ, "de subpena" issue, according to the form or prayer of the Petition.

BRECON.—TERMINO PASCHE ANNO 82 REGINE ELIZ.

THE ANSWER OF RICHARD GWYNNE TO THE BILL OF COMPLAINT OF DAVID PHE AND OTHERS COMPLT.

The saide defendant the advantage and exception to the incerteintie and insufficiencie of the said Bill of Complaint to the def. at all tymes hereafter saved then and not before for answere saith That trewe it is that it appereth by soundry ministers Accomptes that the saide fforest called Bighled was sometimes parcell of the possessions of Edward late Duke of Buckingham atteinted of treason And this def. taketh it there was in the tyme of the said Duke of Buckingham or of some of his anncestors an yerely rent of seven shillings answered in the name of a ferme rente And under the title of Minut firm, and he further saith that it appereth by diverse Accomptes sithence the atteinder of the said Edward Duke of Buckingham and after that the said forest amongst other thinges came to the handes of the late Kinge of famous memorie Henrie the Eight by the atteinder of the said Edward late Duke of Buckingham that the said forest was in charge for the rent of seven shillings And that alsoe the said forest was demised sometymes to one John ap Hoell Gunter for the said rente as by the Ministers Accomptes with her Majesty's Auditor of the Revenewes of that Countie of Record remayneth And this def. confesseth that the said forest was demised by her Majestie to Thomas ap Hoell ap Eignon and by him the said Thomas conveyed over to this def. in manner and forme as is partly surmised by the Compl and that he this def. is lawfullie as he taketh it thereof possessed and that her Majestie mighte lawfullie demise the premises. And this def. is further informed by his Counsaile that the significacion supposed to be made by Henry late Duke of Buckingham to his then Auditor that he had pardoned and released the said ffarmer of seven shillings to the behoofe of the then Tenantes and Resiantes in the Bill mencioned is no sufficient discharge or extinguishment of the Rent And if the deed itself were shewed yet it is but a discharge for the rent during the lives of the then Tenantes and no more. And that alsoe there is noe graunt or conveyance of the fforest itself or of the soile, but it still rested and remayned in possession, to the said Henry Duke of Buckingham and from him discended by course of Inheritaunce or by meane conveyance to the said Edward Duke of Buckingham of highe treason atteinted And by reason thereof actuallye vested in the said Kinge Henry the Eighte and by course of Inheritance discended into her majestie whoe is thereof seased in her demeane as of fee in the righte of her Crowne of England as this def. taketh it. And he this def. further saithe that he is credibly informed that the moste parte of the said forest is encroached severed and Inned by the Compl. and others of the neighbors borderinge and adjoyninge to the said forest, and if the freholdes were surveyed and the boundaries of the said fforest of auncient tyme vewed or any perambulacion thereof made it wolde fall oute that the moste parte thereof is encroched And that their severall freeholdes are augmented and enlarged by taking in a greate parte of the said foreste into theire freeholdes Without that [that] the said foreste is parcell of the said Lordshipp or Mannor of Brecknock as this def. thinketh or that they [sic.] Compl. are her Majestes Tenantes of the Lordshipp of Brecknocke as this def. beleaveth or that the said Henry Duke of Buckingham to the knowlege of this def. did by

his sufficient deed in Lawe exonerat and release his said then Tenantes and resiants of the said Lordshipp of Brecknock for ever of and from the said yerelie rente of seaven shillinges or that the nowe Compl. as this def. thinketh be Tenantes of her majestes lordshipp of Brecknock as is ontrulie surmised by the Compl. and withoute that everye the Tenantes resiantes and their heires and those which had their several estates in and to the said forest oughte to have and peaceably to enjoy the said forest to them and to their heires to this def. knowledge, or that the said deed of release or any other evidences touching the title of the Compl. came into the hands of the Deft. or that by color of havinge thereof the said lease was obteyned in manner and forme as is untruly surmised by the said Compl. and without that there was any processe awarded to levye the said rente as a fee farme but rather as a farme rente due unto her Majestie as may appere by diverse and soundry Accomptes for the def. saith that the payment of the said rente for many yeres was excused by reason the Reve or farmer cold make noe profit thereof by Agistment as this defendant supposeth all which matters the defs. is ready to averr and prove as this honorable Courte shall award, and prayeth to be dismissed with his costes and charge and chardges wrougfully susteyned.

Prestitit sacramentum xix die Maii Anno xxxi Regine E. in Curia.

The above answer of Richard Gwynne was to the effect that even if the deed could be found and if it did release the tenants and others from the payment, such was only good for their lives and not for ever.

The Court of Exchequer however decided against this contention, and held that the pasturage of the Forest was free of payment for ever.

FOREST OF BOGHELED OR BUCKLAND.

In the Book of Ordinances remaining in the custody of the Remembrancer of the Queen there, there is contained as follows :—viz., among the Ordinances of Michaelmas Term, 36 & 37 Eliz. (1593-4).

DECREE.

Friday 29, November.

[South Wales Inrolments, Vol. 6. fo. 61b.]

Whereas DAVID PHILLIP, EVAN MADOCKE, and divers others, the tenants and inhabitants of Llansanffred within the lordship of Brekon in the county of Brekon exhibited their English Bill into the Exchequer Chamber, against Richard Gwynne, gent., showing thereby that by usage and custom time out of mind of man the tenants and inhabitants of that parish have had and accustomed to have common of pasture for all manner of beasts at all seasons of the year upon a parcel of her Majesty's waste ground called the Forest of Buychlyd, parcel of the said lordship of Brekon which came to the Crown by the forfeiture of Edward late Duke of Buckingham of high treason attainted, and showing moreover that in ancient times Harry late Duke of Buckingham had been answered of 7s. by year for the farm of the said forest at the hands of his tenants and resiants there, and that the said Harry by deed dated 10 January, 21. Edw. 4 (1482) discharged and remitted the said annual rent of 7s. to the said tenants and inhabitants for evermore, according to which deed they ever since enjoyed the said commons freely without paying anything for the same :

Howbeit the now Auditor found and conveyed the same 7s. in charge as to this day ever from the attainder of the said Edward Duke of Buckingham, whereby the said tenants complained themselves to be grieved both by distress and otherwise for the answering of that charge which was not paid, and showing also that the said Gwyne the defendant had procured to be taken in lease her Majesty's forest under the seal of this

Court for the term of 21 years at 7s. rent, by color of which it is to be intended that he proposed to evict the poor plaintiffs of and from their lawful use of common therein to their great prejudice :

To which bill defendant answered and confessed the taking of the said lease and an assignment thereof to him made and that the said charge was set upon the plt. in form as in the bill is alleged : upon which bill and answer the cause coming to be heard this present day and being opened before the Lord Treasurer of England, Sir John Fortescue, Knt., Chancellor of the Exchequer Sir William Peryam, Knt., Lord Chief Baron, by the Counsel of plts., in the presence of deft. and of Thomas Hanbury, Esq., her Majesty's Auditor of Wales, who showed in court such records as he had to maintain the said charge and her Majesty's title to the said forest : upon due considerations had of which records and of the said ancient deed of discharge made by the said Harry Duke of Buckingham :

It is ordered and decreed that the plaintiffs and the tenants and inhabitants of the said parish of Llansanffred shall from henceforth quietly have use and enjoy their said common of pasture freely without paying anything for the same to her Majesty ; and that there shall be by the said Auditor an exoneration made of the said charges, and that plts. nor any of the tenants and resiants of the said lordship shall be hereafter at any time molested distrained or troubled by reason of the said charge, or of any supposed arrearages which have past of the same.

And it is also ordered that defts. said lease or his assignment made of the same shall be brought into court by deft. before the end of the next term to be cancelled and no new lease or assignment thereof to be made hereafter which may impeach the interest of the said parish of Llansanffreyd and that deft. shall not be charged hereafter with the said rent of 7s. reserved upon the said demise or lease toward her Majesty her heirs or successors.

Exr per me Tho : FANSHAW.

The following verses give the story, and I trust I may be pardoned for reproducing them here :

A TALE OF THE FOREST.

SCENE I.—A.D. 1482.

I.

Four hundred years ago, and more,
There lived in Brecknock Town,
Within his castle's ancient walls,
A Lord of great renown.

II.

'Twas Harry, Duke of Buckingham,
He ruled the county round,
His castles, lordships, forest lands
On every side were found.

III.

And to his tenants, great and small,
If they to him were true,
He gave them many a privilege,
As often great men do.

IV.

To England on the Bychlyd Hill
Some mountain passes lead,
These had been safely guarded by
The men of Llansaintfread.

V.

And so, this mighty nobleman,
By deed, signed by his hand,
Gave them for ever pasturage free
Upon this forest land.

VI.

And when the happy news was told,
The "resiants" all around
Together met, to thank the Duke
For granting them the ground.

VII.

The bells rang loud, and all was joy !
The priest he bade them pray,
And thank the Gracious Lord of all
For what was done that day.

SCENE II.—A.D. 1595.

VIII.

Glides by a century of time !
The Virgin Queen, alone,
Had reigned for more than thirty years
On her late father's throne.

IX.

Gone was the House of Buckingham,
And Brecknock Castle lay
In ruins. And the Duke's estates
Had all been swept away.

X.

Gone, too, the rich lands of the Church !
Changed was the nation's creed !
What wonder, if a trouble came
To men of Llansaintfread.

XI.

It chanced, a careful auditor,
Who acted for the Queen,
Among the Duke's old documents,
This item he had seen.

XII.

—Seven shillings for the Forest land
Once on a time was paid—
“Why not again ! And all arrears !
The faithful Steward said.

XIII.

He sends for “fermor” Richard Gwynne,
To rent this Forest land,
And, never doubting, grants a lease,
Under the Queen's own hand.

XIV.

Ill tidings travel fast, we know,
And soon the word came down—
“Pay up ‘arrearages,’ and rent,
Long due unto the Crown.

XXII.

“Cancel that lease. The Ducal grant
Of the Free Forest land,
To men of Llansaintfread is good,
And shall for ever stand” !

The story, as told in verse, is authentic, except on two points, that of the “considerations” for the grant of free pasturage (guarding the mountain pass or ford over the river seems probable), and of the finding of the deed in the Parish chest. A little licence is taken in the verses in these two respects.

The Grant of 1482 and the Decree 1595 are both extant.

The full names of the Llansaintfread worthies are David Phillip and Evan Madocke. It appears by the will of a Meredith Phillip in 1578 (probably the father of David), that he owned a house and lands in Bychlyd ; and further by the will of Evan Madocke in 1626, that he possessed a house called Buckland. Both were probably yeomen (freeholders) in the parish, and the name of Madocke is still to be seen on a stone in the parish churchyard.

This case has more than a local interest, in that it confirms the decision of the Arbitrator (Lord Hobhouse), in the great Epping Forest Settlement. It was to the effect (Loughton “Lopping Wood” case, as it is known) that the inhabitants of a parish or township generally, as well as the tenants of the lordship or manor, can be granted, and if so, can exercise special rights over Forest and common lands.

The historian of Breconshire, Theophilus Jones, writing in 1809, said he thought the Bychlyd Forest extended from the River Usk at Llansaintfread to Dinas Castle—several miles apart—but at this date not only the boundaries of the Forest, but even the situation, are in doubt.

XV.

To men of Llansaintfread that day
It was a trying hour.
They quailed not, though they knew full well
The Crown of England's power.

XVI.

Then up there spake two aged men,
Phillip and Maddocke brave,
And told their neighbours they had heard,
From those now in the grave,

XVII.

“The Forest land was free of rent
For men of Llansaintfread” ;
And begged them search the Parish Chest,
Perchance they'd find the deed.

XVIII.

And there—good luck—the deed was found
Then cheers loud rent the air,
And joy again was in their hearts,
Instead of deep despair.

XIX.

But yet the Crown held to the claim !
And those brave men, by law
In civil suit, were forced to prove
The deed was free from flaw.

XX.

And England's Lord High Treasurer,
The Lord Chief Baron, too,
And Chancellor of Exchequer
Looked o'er it through and through.

XXI.

Then summoning the Auditor,
And Gwynne, the Crown lessee,
Before the High Exchequer Court,
They issued this decree—

Manors of Crickhowell and Tretower.

These manors, unlike those of Breconshire generally, have not been in the hands of the Crown for a number of years. It is stated that Edward IV., soon after his accession, 1483, granted these manors with their castles to Sir William Herbert, Knight, of Raglan Castle, afterwards Earl of Pembroke. His grand-daughter, heiress of these estates, married Sir Charles Somerset, afterwards Earl of Worcester. There appears also to have been a grant in the reign of James I., of these Manors and Castles with Raglan, and many others in Monmouthshire and Glamorganshire to Edward, Earl of Worcester. This grant is not noticed either by Theo. Jones or Poole, and as yet I have only seen the title of it in the Crown Record books.

Crickhowell Manor comprised the parishes of Crickhowell, Llangenny, Llanbeder, Patrishow, Llangattock, and Llanelly, while Tretower contained those of Cwmddu and Llangynider.

The old papers which I have show that in 1714 Lord Arthur Somerset was the owner, and at the foot of a long list of chief rents and comorth made out parish by parish is written :

“This writing was shown to John Somerset on his examination in Chancery, on the part of Arthur Somerset, Esq., commonly called Lord Arthur Somerset, complainant against Richard Lewis, Esq., and others, Defendants.

“(Signed) A. TREVOR.”

The name of the first person on the paper owing chief rent and comorth in Crickhowell, Llanelly and Cwmddu Parishes, is that of Lord Mansell, and then follow a number of names with their respective payments.

We pass on to 1728, when a full list of the Cott Rents (cottage rents and for encroachments), and of the chief rents, comorth, Knight's fee, payments by Welsh tenants, English rents, and Da Powell Reer is made by the steward, Gabriel Powell.

In the Crickhowell Manor, chief rents and comorth are payable, but in Cwmddu Parish within Tretower, we find the payments divided into Knight's Fee, Welsh tenants, English rents, and in Llangynider in the same manor, we meet with the term, Da Powell Reer. Chief rents and comorth we find paid in most Breconshire manors, and Welsh tenants and English rent denote English and Welsh tenure, as in the manor of Penkelly and Hay, where even the manors were divided into English and Welsh. But I have never previously met with the terms Knight's Fee and Da Powell Reer.

Jacob in his Law Dictionary thus describes Knight's Fee :

“It was so much inheritance in land, as was sufficient to maintain a knight. This was £20 a year by the Statute I Edward II. C.I. Sir Thomas Smith puts it at £40. Sir Edward Coke says a Knight's Fee contained 680 acres. When the estate of a knight was esteemed £20 by the year, then that of a baron was 400 marks, that of an earl £400, of a marquess 800 marks, and £800 for a duke. In England at the time of William the Conqueror there were 62·015 Knight's Fees, whereof 23·015 were in the possession of religious houses.”

The following paid Knight's Fees in Cwmddu Parish :

	£	s.	d.
Lord Ashburnham for Porthamell	0	8	0
Edward Herbert, gent., per Thomas Walter Powell ..	0	2	0
The heirs of Vaughan Morgan, gent., now Mrs. Butcher, for the Keyney Denies, the charge	1	10	0
William Phillip	0	2	0
John Prosser de Nantyfeen	0	2	2

As regards Prosser of Nantyfeen, which place is just where the two parishes of Cwmddu and Crickhowell meet on the main road. I am under the belief that the mill on the Rhiangoll stream is now called Knight's Mill, and that I have seen Particulars of

Sale of the property near by the Prosser family some time this century. If so, we have the explanation.

I do not find "ced" or "ceisiad," an assistance, among the payments in these manors, though Jones says it existed in Patrishow parish.—We found it existing, it will be remembered, in the Manor of the Welsh Hay.

The following is the account of his stewardship by Mr. Gabriel Powell for 1831.

Gabriel Powell, Debtor to the Right Honourable Lord Arthur Somerset, for the year ended att May, 1731.

	£	s.	d.
Arrears returned on last account	094	6	10
Farme Rents and Dutyes	710	14	11
Casual Receipts, etc.	168	12	0
Chief Rents and Ineroachments received	100	8	6
	£1,082	2	3

E. CONTRA, Creditor.

	£	s.	d.
By Casual Payments, etc.	189	6	2½
By other Payments to my ledger	888	19	8
By ballance of rent account, salary, interest money, etc.	096	1	7
By arrears, remaining due att May, 1731	156	8	9½
	£1,224	16	3

	£	s.	d.
Debtor... ..	1,082	2	3
Creditor	1,224	16	3
Balance due to Accountant	£0142	16	3

25th of January, 1731.

Passed and allowed then of this account, and there is due to the Accountant the above ballance, as witnessse our hands.

(Signed) A. SOMERSETT,
GA. POWELL.

JAS. ROGERS.

There are several items of small rents received from lime-kilns, in Llangynider parish, but I do not find any relating to coal.

One item is of interest to me, chief rent paid in Llangattock, by Edward Williams (formerly Henry Williams.) The amount is 15s. and clearly is the chief rent my nephew pays to-day to the superior Lord for the little manor of Penallt and Aberonney at Llangattock. There are some curious chief rents in connexion with this small manor, such as a Red Rose.

Croxhall and Harcourt are names mentioned in the list of tenants of Crickhowell and Tretower manors.

What Da Powell Reer means I do not know—Rheydir is a knight, and Da, goods or property, or cattle, and possibly it means the "lands or goods of Powell, Knight."

Among the Farm Rents in Crickhowell Parish are the following :—

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Joseph Ash, for ffarm	40	10	0
Do. for mills	9	0	0
Duties	0	3	0
The Bailiff of Crickhowell for Burrough Rent	9	7	5

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Jno. Herbert for late Wm. Hughes	0	12	0
The Stranger's grounds	2	10	0
Jno. Herbert and Lewis James for part of Ye Toll ...	5	10	0
Duties, 2 hens or... ..	0	1	0
Jno. Walbeoffe for the other part of the Toll	1	0	0
Mr. Wm. Hughes, a portionery (?)	14	0	0
Duties	0	8	6
Jno. Wm. Jno., for late Thomas Jenkins	23	0	0
Anne Jasper	1	10	0
Mr. Rumsey Watkins	8	0	0
Mr. Jones for fishery	0	12	0
Morgan Jenkins for stables	0	12	0
and from the lettings of the park in Llangattock Parish to Herbert Job, and others, various sums.			

In Llangynider 18 lime-kilns are stated to be rented out at 15s. a kiln.

The Miarth Hill (Tretower).

In the paper on the Crickhowell and Tretower manors I omitted any notice of this part of Cwmdy parish. I find in the year 1850 the late Sir Joseph Bailey was lord of the manor of Penmiarth—presumably a mesne manor of Tretower,—but how it came to him, and by what purchase, I do not know. He then almost immediately applied for an Inclosure Act, and in 1856 the Miarth Hill was enclosed and all common rights extinguished. Much of the land around was already his property, and by buying out the interest of a Mr. Williams, of Crickhowell, who held some small tenements, Sir Joseph Bailey had all the common lands allotted or transferred to him, except 40 acres allotted to the Gliffaes estate of Mr. West. At the time I remember hearing of some cases of hardship of cottagers being dispossessed, and this was likely to be the case if an inclosure took place in any of the Crickhowell manors, where cot rents and small hillside holdings under the Duke of Beaufort are so common.

Miarth is said to have the same meaning and derivation as Garth, Penarth, &c., generally a hill by itself standing up a good height, and hogbacked—a ridge when inland, and a promontory or “head” when near the sea.

There is a very interesting old driftway across the Usk between Gliffaes and Penmiarth at the Island, which deserves notice, and there are also large maen-hirs in the glade leading to the driftway, and higher up at Pantyfedwen, near Llangynider. This driftway, to which common land led down from the hill all the way to the water's edge, before the inclosure was made, enabled the Cwmdy-side people to cross the river, because in those early times there were no permanent stone bridges, to bring their lime and coal from the Llangattock mountain; and having crossed the Usk, they then found the Roman road to take them, either up or down the valley, and “Spiteful Inn,” as the hospitium or hostelry of ancient days, ready to receive them and to entertain both man and beast. When the inclosure took place, no new roads were set out on Miarth hill, neither were any old roads ordered to be closed; but whether you or I, if a parishioner or simply a tourist, have the right still to go to the top of the Miarth hill, and gaze on the lovely scenery of the Usk valley and on Llangorse Lake and Mynydd Troed from its summit, I cannot tell. You must example the inclosure map.

The Penkelly Manors.

These Manors have been known by the names of Penkelly Castle, English Penkelly, Welsh Penkelly, Penkelly Cwmorgwm, Wenallt, and we may add Penkelly Glyncollwm and Cwmbanw. In the early times of Bernard Newmarch, and in those of his successors in the Lordship of Brecknock, they were included in and held by the one general name of the Manor of Penkelly. Some time previous to or subsequent to the attainder of Edward Duke of Buckingham, in the reign of Henry VIII., the Manor was divided, but it has been found impossible, though the attempt has been made by many successive inquirers, experts, and amateur antiquarians, satisfactorily and clearly to trace out how the division occurred.

And it has never been found possible to ascertain the distinctive boundaries of these Manors respectively on the enclosed lands, and only in the case of Welsh Penkelly on the waste or common lands. Speaking, however, of all these Manors taken together, they may be said to include the entire parishes of Llanfrynach, Llanfigan, Llanddett, and Vaynor on the south side of the Usk, and parts of the parishes of Llanfaintfraed and Llanvillo on the north side of that river, a very large extent of country, measuring many square miles and including a great tract of waste or common land. A part of Llanvillo parish may, I think, be safely included, but I am in doubt as to Llanfaintfraed, because we have no accurate knowledge where to place the Forest of Buchlyd, or Buckland. Forests were generally held to be extra-parochial, and in olden time it may have been that Llanfaintfraed Parish did not include all the land comprised within its modern boundaries. The Manor or Manors of Penkelly may be said to be wholly within the Hundred of Penkelly, and to include all except a small portion of it.

In 1816 it became necessary for Mr. Thynne Howe Gwynne, of Buckland, to prove his title to some of the Penkelly Manors then held by him, and with this object an elaborate statement was prepared at great cost on his behalf. That document is still extant, and from it the following information is obtained. It would seem that there were no ancient documents in his possession which could throw any light upon the origin of his Manors, so Mr. Gwynne caused search to be made into ancient records in all the Public Offices in London in order to ascertain the extent and antiquity of those Manors. Every possible search was then made by Mr. Illingworth, the antiquarian, but very little information could be obtained. All that could be learnt was that antiently there was one great Lordship or Manor, and a Barony, called Penkelly, and parcel of the Castle or greater Lordship of Brecknock of which Humphrey de Bohun died seized in 46 Edw. III., and that in the reign of Richard III., this Manor and the third part of the Barony were the property of the Duke of Buckingham, upon whose attainder it was escheated to the Crown.

The writer of this old paper then proceeds to quote from and comment on Jones' *History of Brecknockshire*, Vol. III., p. 592:—

"Mr. Jones says the Manor of Penkelly was divided into five Lordships, viz.: Penkelly Castle, English Penkelly, Penkelly Cwmorgwm, Wenallt, and Welsh Penkelly; that the three first were granted to one of the Herberts, and that Richard Herbert or descendants sold it to Edward Games, Esquire, of Buckland, from whom it came to Mr. Roger Jones' ancestors; that Charles Herbert in his will proved at Brecon in 1645 states the Manor of Penkelly, his Castle and Demesne to be held of the King in Knights service." Mr. Jones further states "that the Manor of Wenallt was a Mesne Manor of his Lordship of Penkelly, and belonged to a family of the name of Morgan, and afterwards became part of the Buckland estate." How Mr. Jones got possession of this information it is now impossible to ascertain, as he is lately dead, but Mr. Illingworth in the Public Record Office could gain no other information than what is stated, and none at all as to the extent of the boundaries of the Manors or of the commons and wastes thereon.

As to Welsh Penkelly, it appears it was in the hands of the Crown in the reign of Henry VIII., and has continued so ever since; and it appears by the Parliamentary

Survey made in 1650 (see page ante 17) there is a common called Abergam belonging to it, but neither the situation of this common or the boundaries and extent of it or of the Manor itself are stated.

It appears, therefore, that there is no ancient documentary evidence relating to the Manors upon which Mr. Gwynne could depend, and that he must look solely to deeds of comparatively modern date and to parol evidence of acts of ownership to establish his rights.

The Manors of Penkelly Castle, Wenallt, English Penkelly, Skethrog, Penkelly Cwmorgwm, and the King's Manor of Welsh Penkelly lie together, and are so intermixed that no person living can trace their respective boundaries, nor are there any written documents in existence which describe them, particularly in the lowlands, but upon the common the boundaries of Welsh Penkelly are known and well ascertained, and the external boundaries of the whole between the Manors of other Lords are well known."

In the same old paper follows the statement of Mr. Illingworth as to his researches. He first produced a document relating to Penkelly Castle, *Inquisitio post mortem* 38 and 39 Henry VI., on the death of Sir Hugh Mortimer, 1460, and remarks that the 40 marks mentioned in the Inquisition were a very large sum in those days.

Next follows, 14 Eliz., a Trial of the Hundred Court and of a Court of Survey of the Manors of Penkelly, situate and lying in divers parishes, Vaynor, Llanddetty, Llanfigan, Llanfrynach, and Llansaintfraed, in which mention is made of Wm. Games, Esqr., and Wm. Aubrey, Esqr., and John Walbye, Esqr., holding suit of the same Court.

As touching English Penkelly, Mr. Illingworth produced the letters patent, 20 Henry VIII., 1528, being a grant to Lord Ferrers in tail male; also the Inquisition post mortem, 20 Jan 3 Eliz., in which the words "beyond fees" are important, denoting that these were subinfeudations holden of that Manor; they show also that the Manor was a paramount Manor.

Mr. Illingworth also produced the *Inquisitio post mortem*, 7 Sep. 19 Eliz., taken 1577 on the death of Walter Earl of Essex, grandson of the Walter Viscount Hereford mentioned in the last Inquisition. He also produced Letters Patent 43 Eliz., and the Parliamentary Survey in the time of Oliver Cromwell, which relates to Welsh Penkelly.

It will be observed that no allusion is made in this old paper to the Manor of Penkelly Glyn Collwm, or Cwmbanw, which was then about to give Mr. Gwynne such great and prolonged trouble.

It will be convenient to give a list of antient documents relating to the Penkelly Manors, which I have been able to find, and many of which were used either at the Hereford trial of 1817 or in the recent Torglas Common land Case of 1898. The documents will be printed in extenso at the end of this account, as possibly on some future day reference to them may have again to be made.

- 1.—1460. Castle & Manor of Penkethle.—Inquisition on the death of Sir Hugh Mortimer, Knight. 38 and 39 Henry VI.
- 2.—1509. Grant of the Manor or Lordship of Penkelly and one-third of the Barony of Penkelly to our kinsman, Edward, Duke of Buckingham. 37 Henry VII.
- 3.—1522. Grant of the office of Steward of the Lordship of Penkelly (inter alia) to Walter Devereux, Knight, Lord Ferrers. 13 Henry VIII.
- 4.—1528. Grant of the Manor of English Penkelly to John Rageland, and subsequently to Walter Devereux, Knight of the Garter, Lord Ferrers, on the attainder of Edward, Duke of Buckingham. 20 Henry VIII.
- 5.—1553-4. Exchequer Ministers account of Welsh Penkelly. 1 & 2 to 2 & 3 Phil: and Mary.
- 6.—1558. Proceedings against Thomas Gunter of Gileston by the Attorney General as to Welsh Penkelly accounts. 1 Eliz.

- 7.—1562. Further proceedings against Thomas Gunter. 4 Eliz.
- 8.—1561. Inquisition on the death of Walter, Viscount Hereford, Lord Ferrers, of the Manor of English Penkelly (inter alia). 9 Eliz.
- 9.—1560. Court of Law of the Manor of Penkelly on behalf of Walter Vaughan, Esqre., held at the Castle, of Welsh and English Tenants. 14 Eliz. (?).
- 10.—1577. Inquisition on the death of Walter, Earl of Essex, of the Manor of Penkelly (inter alia). 19 Eliz.
- 11.—(No date). Survey of the Manor of Penkelly Castle of John Powell, gentleman. (No date.)
- 12.—1601. Grant of English Penkelly Manor to Michael and Edward Stanhope. 43 Eliz.
- 13.—1650. Parliamentary Survey of Welsh Penkelly Manor. See ante page—17.
- 14.—1762. Appointment by the Crown of Thynne Howe Gwynne, as Steward of Welsh Penkelly Manor. See infra.
- 15.—1786. Presentments at Court Leet of Welsh Penkelly Manor, and Perambulation of the Waste lands. See p. 31.
- 16.—1787. Sworn Report of Thynne Howe Gwynne, Steward of Welsh Penkelly Manor, made to the Crown.
- 17.—1816. Sworn Survey of John Cheese with Valuation, of Welsh Penkelly Manor, made by Order of the Crown. See p. 33.
1817. Sale of Welsh Penkelly Manor by the Crown to Charles Claude Clifton. See Land Revenue Records.
1824. Sale of Welsh Penkelly Manor by Clifton to Thynne Howe Gwynne. See Order of Court at Record Office. Chancery. July 8, 1824. 1823 . A . 2015. Clifton v. Gwynne,
1826. Death of Thynne Howe Gwynne, and devise of Welsh Penkelly Manor to his second son, with option of purchase by granddaughter, the other Penkelly Manors having passed to her by settlement. This option was exercised.

We now pass from the antient documents, and dealing solely with records of modern date, trace as far as we can the transfer of all the Penkelly Manors into the hands of the Gwynne of Buckland family.

In 1709, by Indenture dated 9 & 10 October, Edward Games, Esquire, of Tregare, conveyed the Mansion of Penkelly Castle, and the Manor of English Penkelly, together with lands in the parish of Llanfigan, and other lands which he had purchased from Hugh Powell in the same parish, also in Llandetty, Vaynor, and elsewhere, to Roger Jones, Esquire, of Buckland, for the sum of £1200.

This Roger Jones, into whose hand the Manor of Wenallt, and also of Skethrog (or some portion of the latter) had previously passed, died in 1741, and devised all his Manors and landed estates to his wife, Elinor, and in default of children (and there were none), to her heirs and assigns for ever. In 1741 the widow married Sir John Pryce, of Newton Hall, in the County of Montgomery, and by her will dated 1743 devised all her Manors and estates to her husband for his life, and subject to his life interest, these descended, as she made no further appointment, to her brother, David Evors, as heir-at-law.

In 1756 Roger Gwynne, of Glanbrane, in the County of Carmarthen, Esquire, purchased the Buckland Estate with its Manors and lands from Sir John Pryse and Mr David Evors for £13,026.

The Conveyance specified, inter alia, the several lordships and Manors of Penkelly, Penkelly Castle, Wenallt and Skethrog, together with the Fishery or Fisheries in the River Usk thereto, or to either of them belonging, used, occupied, and enjoyed, and commonly known and distinguished by the name of "The Buckland Fishery." Great stress was laid on these latter words in the celebrated trial as to the right of fishing on the Maesmawr land, Holford v. Bailey, at Gloucester in 1846, a several fishery having, in the absence of any Grant, been presumed thereby to have once existed in the Usk in connexion with one or other of the Manors named.

In 1774 Mr. Roderick Gwynne died, but in the year previous he had concurred, subject to his life interest, in a settlement of the Buckland estate, with the Manors, &c., on his second son, Thynne Howe Gwynne, on his marriage with Miss Maria Elionora Mathews, a Glamorganshire co-heiress.

A few years before this happening, Mr. Thynne Howe Gwynne had been appointed by the Crown to be Steward of Welsh Penkelly Manor by the following instrument:—

To all to whom these presents shall come, I, William Viscount Barrington, Chancellor and Under Treasurer of his Majesty's Exchequer, send greeting :

Know ye that I the said William Viscount Barrington, reposing especial trust and confidence in the care and probity of Thynne Howe Gwynne of Buckland, in the County of Brecon, Esquire, have constituted, and appointed, and do by these presents constitute, nominate, and appoint the said Thynne Howe Gwynne to be Steward of His Majesty's Manor of Penkelly (sic) in the County of Brecon, which said office of Steward of the Manor aforesaid was granted to Howel Gwynne of Garth, in the said County of Brecon, Esquire, by appointment bearing date the 31st day of October 1781, under the hand and seal of the Right Honble. Sir Robert Walpole, then Chancellor of His Majesty's Exchequer, but determined by the demise of His late Majesty, George the second, To have and to hold the said office unto the said Thynne Howe Gwynne during His Majesty's pleasure, together with all lawful powers and authority to hold Courts, and to do all other acts and things which to the said office of Steward of the said Manor belong, or in any wise appertain, and all perquisites and advantages belonging to the same in as full and ample a manner as any former Steward heretofore lawfully executing the said office have held and enjoyed the same.

In witness thereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal of Office the eleventh day of March, 1762.

BARRINGTON L. S.

Sealed and delivered in
the presence of Jas. Best.

Inrolled in the Auditor of Wales Office in
New Palace Yard, Westminster, 29th
day of March 1762.

THOMAS WYNN, Auditor.

In 1786 a very important Court Leet was held, and a Perambulation made of the waste lands of the Crown Manor of Welsh Penkelly by Mr. Thynne Howe Gwynne as the Steward, and Pennoyre Watkins, the well-known Solicitor of Brecon, as Deputy Steward. They took evidence from all the aged witnesses then living, and the Court Leet was three times adjourned in order to complete the evidence, and make the perambulation of the waste lands of the manor. The original minutes of that Court, and also sworn copies at the Record Office are fortunately extant. (See page 31.)

In 1787 Mr. Thynne Howe Gwynne, as Steward, was called upon to make a Sworn Report to the Crown as to the Rental, &c., of Welsh Penkelly Manor. This Report is extant. See *infra*.

In 1792 Mr. Thynne Howe Gwynne, being anxious, as it is said, to consolidate his manors, and finding a small manor, belonging to a different owner, in the centre of his, called Penkelly Cwmorgwm, in the parish of Llanfrynach—it adjoined the Crown Manor on Cefn Cyff Hill, and was very near his own Manor—took steps to purchase it. The owner was Thomas Harcourt Powell of Peterstone Court, who had inherited it from his father, John Powell formerly of Swansea, and Mr. Harcourt Powell, with the consent of his mother, Amy Powell (one of the daughters and co-heiresses of Godfrey Harcourt of Wirewood Green, Tidenham, in the County of Gloucester, a branch of the Harcourts of Danypark) agreed to sell the Manor for £200. The conveyance is dated 1 & 2 March, 1792, and contains a provision that the sale should be without prejudice to the right of fishery in the river Usk to the extent of the parish and Lordship of Llanhamlach.

About the same time Mr. Gwynne purchased the interest of Mr. Greenly in the Manor of Scethrog, or in some portion of it beyond what Mr. Gwynne already possessed. The particulars of the purchase are not clearly stated in the paper before us.

However, in one way or another Mr. Gwynne had become the possessor of all the Penkelly Manors, as he thought, by the year 1800, except of course the Crown Manor of Welsh Penkelly, and of that he had been the Steward since 1762—and now came a very unpleasant surprise.

The farm of Tymawr in the parish of Llanfrynach had been the property of Thomas Vaughan and Edward Vaughan, his brother, and their ancestors for several generations. Their grandson, Mr. Edward Clark, sold the estate to a Mr. Jones, from whom Mr. Charles Claude Clifton, an English gentleman of position, purchased it. With the property there was conveyed the Manor, or the reputed Manor, of Penkelly Glyncollwm or Cwmbanw, which it was said had been held and enjoyed in connexion with the Tymawr estate, and though no Court Leets had been held of recent years, such had been admittedly held in the time of the Vaughan family from 1750 to 1770.

Mr. Clifton, the new owner, proceeded to assert his right to the Manor, claiming that the rights and privileges of it extended over the whole of the wastes of the Penkelly Manor, including the parish of Vaynor, equally with those of Mr. Gwynne—that he had equal and concurrent rights over the wastes. Mr. Clifton proceeded to shoot over all the waste lands, and employed a bailiff to collect the estrays.

Of course Mr. Gwynne resisted this claim, and both being determined and wealthy men, a right royal battle ensued of a virulence and length in excess of that of any lawsuit in modern times in our County.

The first blow was struck by a letter from Mr. Gwynne's solicitor, Edward Jones, junr., of Llandovery (the late Mr. Thomas Jones' father), to Mr. Clifton, and legal proceedings very soon followed. In 1816 *de bene esse* Commissions sat to take evidence on both sides, and the venue having been changed from the Great Sessions at Brecon—a very usual proceeding in important civil cases in those days—to Hereford, as the nearest English county, the cause was tried there in August, 1817. It occupied four days before Baron Parke, three counsel were engaged on each side, and a large number of witnesses were in attendance, as many as 60, it is said, on the part of Mr. Gwynne. The verdict was for the plaintiff, and Mr. Clifton paid £1858 10s. costs into Court, pending the result of the appeal which he at once lodged.

On the eve of the trial, it should be stated, Mr. Clifton strengthened his position by having been able to purchase from the Crown their Manor of Welsh Penkelly for the sum of £425. Though this purchase did not actually help him at the Hereford trial, it proved a tower of strength in the subsequent legal proceedings of great length that ensued. The cause now became known, not as heretofore, Gwynne v. Clifton, but Clifton v. Gwynne, and as such the numerous entries in the index books at the Record Office will be found. And the proceedings were as follows :—

There was first a long bill of complaint by the Orator, Charles Claude Clifton in 1818, then came the answer and supplementary answer of Mr Gwynne in 1819, a Commission having been appointed to take his evidence at Buckland, which, it was alleged, was more than 20 miles from London. Then came a shower of interrogatories to witnesses in 1821, of Commissions to take evidence to discredit witnesses at the trial, and that of the evidence of witnesses examined since, of Orders to produce documents, Reports, Decrees of Court, &c. Apparently Mr. Clifton was getting the better of the proceedings, for when the Court, impressed with the gravity of the charges made by Mr. Clifton, and the complications of the case, had on December 22nd, 1822, appointed a Commission to examine into and report on the whole case, and when such Commission, having concluded its inquiries, was about to report, a settlement between the parties was suddenly effected, and on these terms :

The sum of £1858 10s. paid as the costs of the Hereford trial was to be paid out of Court to Mr. Gwynne, and he, Mr. Gwynne, was to purchase Mr. Clifton's Manor of Welsh Penkelly, and all his interest in the disputed Manor of Penkelly Glyncollwm or Cwmbanw for £2,000, each party bearing their own costs since the date of the trial at Hereford.

The final decree of the Court, defining the agreement between the litigants, and confirming it, is dated July 8, 1824. And so ended this remarkable cause in a

compromise after lasting nearly ten years, and which of the parties was in the right will probably ever remain unknown.

In 1826 Mr. Thynne Howe Gwynne died, his eldest son Roderick, on whom the Buckland estate and the other Penkelly Manors were settled on his marriage in 1804 to Miss Hughes of Tregunter, having predeceased him in 1808. By his will he left the Welsh Penkelly Manor, being an after acquired property, to his second son, Thynne Howe Gwynne, but with an option to his granddaughter, the only child of his son Roderick, to purchase. This option she exercised a few years later, becoming thereby possessed of all the Penkelly Manors.

These Penkelly Manors have from time to time been fertile in other disputes. There was a disputed boundary question with the Marquis of Bute, a water right question with the Crawshays as to the feeder to the Cyfarthfa pond from the Taff Fechan river, and many minor disputes with building leaseholders on the Cefn Cil Sanws Common land at Cefncoed Cymmer. Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown, it is said, and the same often holds true of the Lord of an extensive Manor like the one we are describing.

In 1846 the manorial right to a several fishery in the River Usk opposite Maesmawr Farm was challenged by the riparian owner, the late Sir Joseph Bailey, Bart. Major Gwynne Holford, the then possessor of the Penkelly Manors, in virtue of his wife, immediately commenced proceedings, and the trial took place at Gloucester, resulting in the establishment of the right of a several fishery. Further proceedings in the form of appeal were taken by Sir Joseph Bailey, but these were unsuccessful. This case is known in the Law Reports as *Holford v. Bailey*, and the final stages of it were only completed, after Major Gwynne Holford's death in 1847, by his widow.

Still more recently has occurred the Tor Glas Common case, where the Lord of the Manor of Welsh Penkelly, Mr. J. P. Gwynne Holford of Buckland, claimed certain mountain land about to be compulsorily taken by the Merthyr Urban District Council, for the site of a reservoir, as his absolute private freehold property, and consequently that the proceeds of the sale, amounting to £2,000, should be paid over to him. The Tor Glas Common, of which the land then taken was a part, contained an area of 650 acres, and the title to the whole was necessarily the same. And it may be said the title to this 650 acres involved that to the whole waste lands of the Welsh Penkelly Manor, amounting to 1650 acres.

The Commoners, however, of Llanfrynach parish contested Mr. Gwynne Holford's claim, alleging that the whole of the 650 acres was a common, known as Tor Glas and part of the waste lands of what had formerly been the Crown Manor of Welsh Penkelly.

The first trial, held at Swansea in 1898 before Justice Phillimore, resulted in favour of the Commoners. Then followed an appeal to the High Court, and on the ground of evidence of reputation having been rejected by the Judge, a new trial was ordered. This took place before Justice Kennedy at Swansea, and again resulted in favour of the Commoners.

One of the main pieces of evidence in behalf of the Commoners was the Presentment of the Court Leet held in 1786 by Mr. Thynne Howe Gwynne as Steward of the Crown Manor, in which the boundaries of the waste lands were clearly stated (see page ante 81). Equally strong evidence was the Report of the Crown Surveyor, Mr. John Cheese, prior to the sale by the Crown to Mr. Clifton of the Manor in 1816 (see page ante 83). Small plans of the Common Lands accompanied his report, and the boundaries shown precisely agreed with those named in the Perambulation of 1786. The Commoners were also able to prove by various documents of old date, and by the appointment of Mr. Thynne Howe Gwynne, as the Steward in 1762, a continuous title in the Crown to the Manor and to this land as forming part of the waste lands from the time of Henry VIII. to the sale of the Manor to Mr. Clifton in 1816.

A few more notes must be added.

On Mr. Thynne Howe Gwynne's death in 1826, it was found that he had left by will the Manor of Welsh Penkelly (not being in settlement on his deceased eldest son Roderick like the bulk of the estate, and the other Penkelly Manors) together with some after

acquired property to his second son Thynne Howe Gwynne, but with the option to his granddaughter to purchase the Manor and other farms and lands near Buckland for the sum of £7,000. This option Miss Gwynne exercised shortly after coming of age about 1828. Subsequently that lady married Major J. P. Holford, and was the mother of the present owner.

When Mr. Clifton was the Lord of the Manor of Welsh Penkelly—1816-1824—a Court Leet was held on June 21, 1821, at the house of Evan Williams, where "the Great Oak" stood in the village of Talybont, Samuel Church being Steward, Thomas Evans, bailiff. At that Court the following Presentments were made :

We present that Jeffreys Wilkins, Esq., one of the tenants of this Manor, died since the last Court seized of two freehold tenements, called Blaentaft and Tirhir, lying in the several parishes of Llanfrynach and Llanfigan within this Manor, for each of which tenements a Heriot of Ten Shillings is due to the Lord of this Manor. And we present John Parry Wilkins, Esq., tenant in his stead.

We present that John Lloyd, Esq., one of the tenants of this Manor, died seized since the last Court of four freehold tenements, called Abercundrig, Tir Llwyn Celyn, Tir Glas, and Rhiwe, lying in the parish of Llanfrynach within this Manor, for each of which Tenements a Heriot of Ten Shillings is due to the Lord of this Manor. And we present his only son, John Lloyd, Esq., Tenant in his stead.

There is an interesting episode as regards this Torglas Common. At one time, in 1846, Mr. J. Parry Wilkins—then De Winton—claimed the whole of the Common as part of his freehold farm of Blaentaft, and sold it as a sheepwalk to Mr. Richards, the ancestor of the present owner of that farm. In 1868 Mr. Richards asserted a similar claim, but in both cases on the intervention of the Lord of the Manor, the claims set up were abandoned. The carelessness with which the Tithe Apportionment Map of the Parish was made and in which open hill land was mapped out as sheepwalk and as part of the farm, paying a tithe rent-charge, had much to do with this strange misconception.

The documents, large plans, Court Leet Presentments, and papers, are all extant relating to this Manor of Welsh Penkelly, and it has been a constant source of wonder to me how Mr. Gwynne Holford's advisers could have recommended him to advance a claim to the Torglas Common as his private freehold. Every paper in their possession must have told them differently, and the statement alone of Mr. Thynne Howe Gwynne, who had been Steward of the Manor for 54 years, that it was common land, should have set at rest any possible doubt that might have existed in their minds.

Thus, not without a feeling of relief, I bring to a close this sketch of the History of the Penkelly Manors.

1.—CASTLE AND MANOR OF PENKETHLE.

38—39 HEN. VI., No. 38.

CHANCERY INQN. P.M.

Inquisition taken at Webbeley in co. Hereford 28 June. 38 Hen. 6 [1460], before Simon Mylborne, Esq., Escheator, after the death of Hugh Mortymer, Knight, by the oath of John Baker, &c., &c., jurors, who say that

The said Sir Hugh Mortymer, Knight, held in his demesne as of fee on the day that he died the manor of Sapy in co. Hereford, jointly with Alianore his wife who still survives.

Also the Castle and Manor of Penkethle with the appurtenances in the Marches of Wales adjoining the said county of Hereford, which said castle and manor are held of Humphrey Duke of Buckingham as of his castle and manor of Brecknok, by what services the jurors do not know, and they are worth per ann., clear, 40 marks.

The said Hugh died on Wednesday next after the feast of the Invention of Holy Cross, 38 Hen 6 [1460]; John Mortymer is his son and next heir and is aged 3 years, 8 months and more.

2.—GRANT OF THE MANOR OR LORDSHIP OF PENKELLY AND ONE
THIRD OF THE BARONY OF PENKELLY TO THE
DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM.

PATENT ROLL, 24 HEN. VII. PART 3 MEMB. 20 (1509).

FOR THE DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM.

The King to all to whom, &c., greeting. Know ye that we of Our special grace and for the affection We bear towards Our kinsman Edward Duke of Buckingham and for the faithful service which he has heretofore rendered to Us have granted to him and his heirs the Castle and town of Bredles, the manors and lordships of Cantrecelly alias Cantrecellyf Brendleys Penkelly alias Penkellyf Langoite and Alexaunders town and the third part of the barony of Penkelly in South Wales, also the advowsons of the Churches, Chapels, and Chantries within the said lordships, manors, and other the premises; also all knights fees, liberties and franchises and hereditaments whatsoever to the said premises belonging, &c., &c., &c. To have and to hold all the said lordships, manors, &c., to Our said kinsman and his heirs of Us and Our heirs in chief for ever, without rendering or paying anything to Us or Our heirs for the same.

Witness Ourself at Westminster, 25 January, by the King.

3.—STEWARD OF THE LORDSHIP OF PENKELLY.

PATENT ROLL, 13 HEN. VIII., PART 3, MEMB. 12 (19).

FOR WALTER DEVEREUX, KNIGHT, LORD FERRERS.

The King to all to whom, &c. Know ye that We of Our special grace and in consideration of the good and acceptable service which Our beloved and faithful Walter Devereux, Knight, Lord Ferrers, has hitherto rendered to Us and during his life intends to render to Us have given and granted and by these presents do give and grant to the said Walter the office of steward of all Our lordships or manors of Cantrecelleff, Penkelly, Brendeles, Langoite, and Alexandretowne; also the office of steward of Our lordships or manors of Hays and Glynbough in the Marches of Wales, &c., &c., &c., and We make and ordain the said Walter steward of Our said lordships, and give to him for exercising the said office of steward of the said lordships of Cantrecelleff, Penkelly, Brendeles, Langoite and Alexaundrestone 66s. 8d. per annum: all which said lordships, manors, lands, &c., came to Our hands by reason of the forfeiture and attainder of Edward late Duke of Buckingham: To have, hold, occupy, and enjoy the said offices to the said Walter by himself or his sufficient deputy for the term of the life of the said Walter of Us and Our heirs, taking and receiving all the profits, advantages, revenues and emoluments to the said offices belonging.

Witness the King at Hampton Court the 29th day of March [13 Hen. 8, A.D. 1522.]

4.—MANOR OF ENGLISH PENCKELLY.

20 HEN. VIII. PATENT ROLL, PART 2, 15 (18).

FOR WALTER DEVEREUX OF THE MANOR OF PENCKELLY.

The King to all to whom, &c., greeting. Know ye that whereas We by Our Letters Patent dated at Westminster 24 November, in the 16th year of Our reign [1524] have given and granted to John Rageland, Knight, the manor of English Penckelly in Southwall, together with all the rents, woods, waters, vivaries, ponds, villeins with their families, warrens and parks with the liberties of the parks to the said manor belonging: which said manor and premises were late of Edward late Duke of Buckingham who was

attainted of high treason and which came to Our hands by reason of the forfeiture and attainder of the said Duke : To have and to hold the said manor and premises to the said John for the term of his life, paying therefore to Us such rents and yearly services as the said manor before the attainder of the said late Duke was held by, without making any account for the said manor rent and service : And now the said John Rageland wishes to restore the said Letters Patent into Our Chancery, There to be cancelled, to the intent that We may see fit to grant other Letters Patent of the said manor and premises to Our beloved and faithful servant, Walter Deveroux, Knight of the Garter, Lord of Ferrers and Cherteley and steward of the household of Our dear first firstborn Mary Princess of Wales : which said Letters remain cancelled in Our Chancery for that cause : Know ye that We of Our special grace and in consideration of the true and faithful service of the said Walter Deveroux, rendered as well to Us as to the said Princess, have given and granted and by these presents do give and grant to the said Walter Deveroux the said manor of English Penckelly together with all the rents, woods, waters, &c., thereto belonging : to hold to him and the heirs male of his body, paying to Us such rents and services as the said manor was held by, without making any account to us for the same.

Witness the King at Westminster 5 May [20 Hen. 8 A.D. 1528].

5.—WELSH PENKELLY MANOR.

EXCHEQUER MINISTERS ACCOUNT 1 & 2 TO 2 & 3 PHILIP & MARY, ROLL 52 R. 16
(1553-4).

PENKELLY WELSH.—The account of Jankin ap Rice deputy of Thomas Gunter, bailiff there for that time (i.e., from Michaelmas 1 & 2 Philip & Mary up to Michaelmas 2 & 3 Philip & Mary [1554-5]).

ARREARS.—None.

RENTS OF ASSIZE.—He renders account of 9s. 2d. of the rent of the tenements sometime of John Deveroux at Penkellie in the term of the Annunciation of our Lady, and 7s. 5d. of the rent of the 7th part of the Welsh tenants sometime of the said John at Penkellie in Michaelmas term ; and 37s. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. of the rent of the tenants at Penkellie and Saint Barnall with the dower of Gwervill, wife of the said John, in the same term ; and 16d. of the rent of Kethn in the same term ; and 33s. 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. of the rent of the tenants in Traif in the part of Roger de Mortuo Mari in the same term ; and 18d. of the rent of William Werren at Tulecrom in the same term ; and 2s. of the rent of Philip ap John and John Browne sometime tenants of the said Roger at Tulecrom in the said term ; and 16d. of the rent of Llewellyn Jevan tenant of the said Roger in the said term ; and 6s. 1d. of the rent of the tenants of John Sutton at Lathnam in the said term. Sum total, £4 19s. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

NEW RENTS WITH INCREASE.—And renders account for 6s. 8d. of increase of the rent of the wife of Philip ap Sethfeld Lloid Vaughan ap Llm ap Mad Saith Jevan ap Llm ap Merike ap Sayfeld and Mad Llm ap Mad ap Phip for lands in Diffincarr, which came into the hands of the lord as escheats and forfeitures of the said tenants in Michaelmas term : and 18d. of increase of the rent of Thomas Pull for the tenement and 3s. of land sometime of Michael Lingen, besides 22d. of ancient rent. Of the advowson there this year nothing. Sum, 8s. 2d.

SALE OF WORKS.—And renders account for 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. of the ploughing of the Welshmen of Tircartheil on the part of Roger de Mortuo Mari in the term of the Annunciation of Our Lady ; and 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for the works of mowing (reaping) on the same part in Michaelmas term. Sum total, 2s. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

COMORTHA.—And for 30s. 9d. forthcoming from a certain custom called Comortha happening every second year in the month of May, to wit, to be charged this year as the second year, because it was not charged in the preceding year, and ought not to be charged in the year next coming. Sum total, 30s. 9d.

PERQUISITES OF COURT.—He does not account for perquisites of Court this year, because none happened during the time of this account.

Sum of the charge £7 18s., whereof he is allowed 8s. 4d. for the stipend of the said accountant by reason of his office, and 2s. for the stipend of the clerk of the auditor for writing this account. And he is discharged here of 43s. 4½d. respited to the said bailiff and charged in the account of William Wightman, Esq., receiver, there.

And he owes £4 12s. 9½d. which he delivered to the said receiver. And so it is equal.

6.—WELSH PENKELLY MANOR.

BRECON. OF THOMAS GUNTER CALLED TO ACCOUNT FOR TAKING HERIOTS WITHIN
THE QUEEN'S MANOR OF PENKELLY TO HIS OWN PROPER USE TO THE
DAMAGE OF THE QUEEN.

Q.R. MEMORANDA ROLL, EASTER I. ELIZ. MEMB. 42.

Memorandum that Gilbert Gerrard, Esq., Attorney General, on the 22nd day of April in this term appeared personally and informed the Court That whereas the Castle and Manor of Welsh Penkelly with the appurtenances in Co. Brecon, parcel of the possessions of the Queen's Principality of Wales, came into the hands of the Queen from the first day of her reign, and still are and ought to be in her possession, as appears by many rolls, records, and memoranda of this Court of Exchequer, yet nevertheless Thomas Gunter of Gileston, co. Brecon, Esq., intending to defraud the Queen of the revenues, heriots, fines, and other profits arising within the said manor, on the 3rd day of December last past and on divers other days between that day and this, with force and arms, to wit, with swords, &c., entered upon the said premises, held a view of frank pledge with a court of the manor there in the name of the Queen, and took and converted to his own proper use £22 10s. in money due to her Majesty for the value of divers animals called heriots after the deaths of divers free tenants within that manor, whose names follow below, and concealed and withheld the same from the Queen, to wit, after the death of Roger David ap Holl for one tenement called Tirwan Gethin, 10s.; after the death of Thomas Phillip Jevan for one tenement called Boryn Roddyn, 10s.; after the death of Watkin Jevan Meredith for one tenement called Tyrycoyddy, 10s.; after the death of Lln ap Holl for one tenement called Tyrblayn Carri, 10s.; after the death of Holl ap Lln for one [tenement] called Tyrdifferm Cavecham, 10s.; after the death of Jenkin ap Holl Gunter for one tenement called Dyfferm Canawr, 10s.; after the death of John Traharne ap Gilm for one tenement called Kelifanws, 10s.; after the death of John Roff for one tenement called Tirblayn Yglais, 10s.; after the death of David ap Morgan for one tenement called Giramdd, 10s.; after the death of John ap Jevan for one tenement called Tiralt Veygan, 10s.; after the death of David ap Gwalter for one tenement called Tir Gwalter David ap Griffith, 10s.; after the death of Edmund Lln for one tenement called Tirybirgrath, 10s.; after the death of Edmund ap John for one tenement called Tirgwealt, 10s.; after the death of Griffith ap Jenkin for one tenement called Tirpenkelly, 10s.; for the land of John Thomas ap Gilm for one tenement called Tirblaynt Kawy, 10s.; and of Holl ap Jevan ap John for one tenement called Tirbryntadrig, 10s.; of Jenkin ap John for one tenement called Tirillethwain, 10s.; of John Jenkin for one tenement called Telle, 10s.; of David ap Madock for one tenement called Tyrlllem Sanffred, 10s.; from Lln Goth ap Morgan for one tenement called Llethvain, 10s.; of John Jenkin John for one tenement called Blaynchlydach, 10s.; of Thomas ap Jevan for one tenement called Tirsigm, 10s.; of Bees ap Holle, for one tenement called Blaynynant, 10s.; of Gwallian vz Gwln for one tenement called Ternmorgan, 10s.; of Thomas ap John for one tenement called Tirblayn Kuyn, 10s.; of John ap Morgan for one tenement called Tir Llanvernach of David Morgan Thomas for one tenement called Blayn Tavechan, 10s.; of Llyn John ap Morgan for one tenement called Llanvernach, 10s.; of John ap Gilm for one tenement called Trofri (or Trostri), 10s.; of Philip Thomas ap Meredith for one tenement called Trivith,

10s.; of William John ap Gilm for one tenement called Troftri (or Trostri), 10s.; of Thomas ap Richard for one tenement called Ybringlas, 10s.; of Richard ap Andrewe for one tenement called Blaynynant, 10s.; of Sicelly vz Re for one tenement called Llanvernache, 10s.; of Gilm Jevan ap Gilm for one tenement called Tredulk, 10s.; of Holl ap Gwalter for one tenement called Maes Mawr, 10s.; of Thomas ap Meredith for one tenement called Tirhery, 10s.; of Llus Walter for one tenement called Tir Jenkin Jevan Las, 10s.; of Richard Burgehill for one tenement called Tirwygarth, 10s.; of Holl ap Jenkin for one tenement called Abercrawnnun, 10s.; of Watkin ap Gilm for one tenement called Blani Calln, 10s.; of Roger ap Meredith for one tenement called Tirpodole, 10s.; of Thomas Edmond for one tenement called Llethwain, 10s.; and of Wallt vz Meredith for one tenement called Comorgan, 10s.; whereupon the said Attorney prays for the help of the court, and that the said Thomas Gunter may come here as well to answer for the said contempt as for the said £22 10s. Whereupon it is agreed that the said Thomas Gunter shall be attached by his body, and the Sheriff is commanded to attach him, so that, &c., in the Octaves of Holy Trinity. On which day the Sheriff did not return the writ, and the said Thomas did not come. Then it was commanded to the Sheriff so that in the Octaves of St. Michael, &c. At which day the Sheriff did not return the writ, and the said Thomas did not come (and so on for six terms). Then the said Thomas Gunter came by John Marwood his Attorney, admitted by the special grace of the court, and prayed to hear the information, which was read over to him. Having heard it he complains that he has been grievously vexed and troubled in the premises and this unjustly, because he protests that the said information is insufficient in the law, and that by the law of the land he is not bound to answer it; nevertheless for plea he says that as to the coming with force and arms, defrauding the Queen of the heriots, fines, &c., within the said manor of Welsh Penkelly, or holding view of frank pledge, or taking the said £22 10s., or any heriots after the deaths of any tenants there, or any further trespass or contempt—he is not guilty of any of them. Whereupon he puts himself upon the country. And the said Attorney General being also present prays for the said Queen likewise.

Therefore let an Inquisition be made.

[The case came on again and it is to be found on the Q.R. Memoranda Roll, Easter 4 Eliz. Memb. 132.]

7.—Q.R. MEMORANDA ROLL, EASTER, 4 ELIZ. MEMB. 132.

ATTORNEY GENERAL V. THOMAS GUNTER.

The said Thomas Gunter was accused of taking money (amount not given) for the value of heriots by and after the death and surrender of divers free tenants within the Manor of Welsh Penkelly, and keeping the same to his own use, to wit, after the death of Watkin Elin Prosser for one tenement called Blain Thalla 10s., after the death of John Elin for one tenement within the said manor 10s., after the death of Watkin Gunter 10s., of John Thomas ap John 10s., of Hoelli Lln 10s., of Thomas Griffith 10s., John ap Ross de Vanior 10s., Lln ap Hoell 10s., Jenkyn Richard 10s., Phe Jevan ap Jevan 10s., Jevan Thomas ap Jevan ap John 10s., John ap Morgan, Esq., 10s., Hoelli Walter 10s., Lodovici Walter 10s., William Havarde 10s., Lln John ap Morgan 10s., Elun John ap Elin 10s., John Philpotte 10s., Phu Elin John ap Meredith 10s., of Lln at Morgan 10s., John Phu Madok 10s., David Madok 10s., Thomas John Thomas Poell 10s., John Walter lln ap Morgan 10s., Richard ap Morgan 10s., David ap Gwalter 10s., Watkyn ap Jevan Meredith 10s., Thomas Jevan ap Hoell ap Dd 10s., John Jenkyn ap John 10s., Griffin ap Jenkin 10s., Matilda de Meredith 10s., Thomas ap Jevan 10s., William goz Thomas 10s., Richard Andrewe 10s., Hoell Willm ap Jevan ap Elin 10s., Edward Havard 10s., Roger ap Meredith 10s., and by and after the surrender of Roger Vaughan, Knight, of one tenement parcel of the said manor late in the tenure of the said Roger 10s., by the

surrenders of Elin ap Jevan Elin 10s., Joan vz Richard Burchill 10s., Owen Jenkyn, Sicillia vz Res 10s., William ap Jevan 10s., Hoelli Edmond Meredd 10s., Thomas ap Richard 10s., Res ap Hoell Goz 10s., John Thomas ap Elin 10s., Thomas ap John 10s., Watkin Herber, Esq., of one tenement parcel of the said manor late in the tenure of the said Watkin 10s., Hoelli Lln ap Hoell 10s., Watkyn ap Hoell ap Lln 10s., Jenkyn ap John 10s., Lodovici ap John 10s., Richard John Lln of the town of Brecon 10s., Edmund ap John 10s., Roger David Hoell 10s., John Trune ap Elin 10s., Jenkyn ap John Don 10s., all which several tenements are parcels of the said Manor of Welsh Penkelly.

It was agreed by the court that the said Thomas Gunter should be attached by his body to answer to the Queen in the premises, and the Sheriff of the county of Brecon was commanded to attach him on the 23rd day of April in this term, but he did not return the writ.

The said Thomas Gunter was committed to the Fleet Prison there to remain, etc., but the same day he was brought by the warders of the said prison to the bar and by the grace of the court was bailed out by John Ellyot of the City of Hereford, gent., and Henry Vaughan of Crekehowell in co. Brecon, gent., to wit, each of them body for body until the morrow, and so on from day to day and from term to term until, &c., by virtue of which bail the said Thomas was released from the said prison.

He then complained that he had been very badly and unjustly treated in the matter and declared that he had not defrauded the Queen of the heriots as aforesaid.

He then put himself on the country.

[Here the case ends.]

8.—ENGLISH PENKELLY.

CHAN. INQ. P.M., VOL. 129, No. 4, 8 ELIZ.

Inquisition taken at Brecknock in co. Brecon 20 January, 3 Eliz. [1561], before Thomas Solers, Esq., Escheator, by the oath of Thomas Gunter, &c., &c., Jurors, who say that

Walter Viscount, Hereford, Lord Ferrers and Charteley, was seized in his demesne as of fee on the day that he died of the manor of Piperton alias Pipton in co. Brecon, which is held of the Queen as of her castle of Broyntles in the said county by knights service, and is worth per ann. clear, £6 0. 8.

The said Walter Viscount Hereford was likewise seized to him and his heirs male for ever on the day that he died of the lordship or manor of English Penkelly in the said county, with all the lands and tenements, meadows, feedings, pastures, woods, rents, reversions, waters, fishing [piscar] *, &c., thereto belonging, and with divers lands and tenements in Llandetty als Llanthetty and elsewhere, parcel of the said lordship, and it is worth per ann., clear, besides the fees and fee farms issuing out of the said manor £7.

The jurors further say that Thomas ap Glm who is attainted and convicted of felony held in his demesne as of fee on the day that he was condemned one tenement at Llanthetty within the lordship of Penkelly called Tire Richard ap Gefrey, and that the said tenement is held of Walter Viscount Hereford as of his manor of Penkelly aforesaid in socage by the yearly rent of 5d., and suit at court and is worth per ann. clear, 26s. 8d.

The said Walter was also seized for the term of his life of the manor of Llanthomas in the parish of Haya in co. Brecon: which said manor by his death came to Dorothy Devereux, widow, late the wife of Richard Devereux, knight, for her life, as parcel of her jointure, the remainder after her death to the right heirs of the said Viscount for ever: which said manor is held of the Queen by knights service as of her castle of Haia, and by a certain rent, and is worth per ann., clear. £6 10 0.

Walter Viscount Hereford died 17 September, 5 & 6, Philip and Mary [1558]; Walter Devereux, Knight, now Viscount Hereford, Lord Ferrers and Chartley, son of the said Walter late Viscount Hereford is his kinsman and next heir and was aged 19 years on the 16th day of September in the said 5th and 6th years.

* The term "fishing" here occurs (piscar).

9.—MANOR OF PENKELLYE.

TRANSLATION AND COPY.

ON THE BEHALF OF WALTER VAUGHAN, ESQ., TO WIT.

Court of Law also of the supervisor, auditor, and governor. Held at the Castle there on the first day of December in the fourteenth year (?) of the reign of the Lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God Queen of England, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. [1560]. Before John Harris and Lewis Meredith by virtue of a Commission thereof made to them by Walter Vaughan, Esq., the lord on behalf of the said manor, as by the said Commission it may the more appear and seem, the date whereof is, &c., to wit.

ESSOINS.

JURORS—

Jenkins Morgan
Henricus Vaughan
Johannes Morgan
Jenkyns John Jenkyns
Watkins Jenkyns
Gwalterus Hoell

Meredith Phe
Willimus Edmonde
Lodovicus Richarde
Philippus Jenkyns
Riscus Thom ap Jevan ap John
Johannes Thome Jevan ap John

AMERCIAMENTS, TO WIT.

Who say upon their oaths that Hoel Llewellyn, Jenkin goz, Robert Morgan, Roger ap Jevan DD ap Hoell, Edmond, Meredith Games, Elizabeth Gounter, John Llewellyn, William Watkyn Gonter, Jevan ap Andrew, Thomas ap Glln, Walter David, Thomas ap John ap Jevan ap DD, David ap Roger DD Hoell, Lykey Robard, Morgan Griffith, Roger ap DD Hoel, Roger Thomas, John ap Jevan John Richard, John Thom ap DD Roger Gough, Meredyth ap Richard, Watkin Hoell Lln, William Games, Esq., David Thomas gllm ap Jevan ap John, William Awbrey Doctor of Law, and John Thoma John Thom ap Hoell, who owe suit at the court of the manor aforesaid and made default, therefore each of them in mercy as appears over the heads of them, to wit. And order is given by the court to the bailiff to raise the said amerciaments out of their goods and chattles before the next court to the use of the lord 28s.

FINES, TO WIT.

Also they present "that there Customs ys, That everye tenant wythin the Lordeshippe ought of rygthe to comence there Accons one agenst the other in the lordes Corte and not elsewhere ether for matters af Trespas or for anye other matters determynable there, upon pain of Amercyamentes. Yt ys therefore ordered by the Courte that hereafter none of the saide Tenantes comence anye Accone oute of the sayde Courte ether for Trespas or other wyse uppon the payne of viis., to be raised out of their goods and chattles to the use of the lord. Except there be lycence gyvyne by the Lorde or his offycers to the Contrarye 7s.

Moreover they say "that the sayde Lordshippe syttuatyth and lyethe in dyvers parishes. That ys to saye, in the parysshe of Vaynor, Landettye, Llan Vygan, Llan Vronye, and Llan Saynt Frege."

And they say "that the freholders to there knowlige have bothe presented there Tenures of freholde wythe the number of acres as also the anuall Rentes, and that the same Rentes ys due by there Custome to be payed at the feast of St. Mychaell Tharchangell yerlye. And there Commortbe ys due everye secende yere to be payid."

Also they present that Philip Jenkyng holds his lands lying and being at Llan Detty upon the way there tenur Walic called Welshe Tenure.

PAINS, TO WIT.

Also the jurors aforesaid have a day by the court to enquire "Whether the land and inherytance of Wakyng Jenkyng Morgan, be holding of this lordshippe ether by Knyghtes service or otherwyse, which landes and tenymentes lye and be at Gylston, and that they brynge in at the next courte by verdytt not onlye the true tenure and quantitye whether by a hole Knyghtes fee or otherwyse, but also whate marryages warde and Reliffes hathe byne and is conselid from the lorde" on the side of the next court under pains to be levied 12s.

THE FREE TENANTS FOLLOW AS WELL OF TENURE AS OF YEARLY RENTS & OTHER SERVICES.

HERIETES AFTER THE CUSTOME OF THE MANOR, TO WIT.

	Yearly Rent.
English.—Rees Thomas claims to hold one tenement in the parish of Combano containing by estimation — acres of land by rent and service	2s. 4d.
English.—John Thomas claims to hold one tenement in Combano aforesaid containing by estimation — acres of land by rent and service, &c.	1d.
English.—Jenkin John Jenkyng claims to hold one water course at Combano aforesaid called Cledagh by rent and service, &c.	2s.
Welsh.—Meredyth Phe claims to hold one tenement at Llan Dettie as of free tenement Welsh containing by estimation 9 acres of land by rent and service, &c.	8d.
Welsh.—William ap Rees claims to hold 1 tenement with the appurtenances at Llan Dettie as of free tenement Welsh containing 8 acres of land by rent and service, &c.	4d.
Welsh.—The same William ap Rees holds one other tenement at Llandettye aforesaid containing by estimation 30 acres Welsh by rent and service, &c.	10d.
Welsh.—Gwalter Hoell claims to hold half an acre of land at Llandettye as of his free tenement Welsh by rent and service	2d.
Welsh.—William Edmond claims to hold 1 acre of land Welsh at Llandettye as of free tenement by rent, &c.	2d.
Welsh.—Thomas ap John Baran claims to hold half an acre Welsh at Llandettye as of free tenement by rent, &c.	4d.
Welsh.—John Morgan ap John claims to hold at Llandettye 4 acres of land Welsh in a place called Earthimadderinge by rent, &c.	4d.
Welsh.—The same John claims 1 tenement on the way in the which he lives Llandettye, containing 24 acres of land Welsh, by estimation, by rent, &c.	8d.
Welsh.—David Jenkyng ap Rees claims to hold 4 acres of land Welsh at Llan Vygan by rent.	1d.
Welsh.—Welthian vz Hoell claims to hold 5 acres of land Welsh at Llan Vygon by estimation by rent and service	4d.
Welsh.—Roger ap Jevan DD Hoell claims to hold 4 acres of land at Llan Vigon Welsh, as of free tenement by rent and service, &c.	2d.
English.—Jevan John Jenkyng claims to hold 1 tenement with the appurtenances at Llan, containing by estimation 10 acres English by rent, &c.	4s.
English.—Neast, wife of John Thomas DD, claims to hold 1 tenement with the appurtenances in Vaynor at of free tenement containing — acres by rent, &c.	16s 8d.
English.—Rogerus Goz claims to hold certain lands there containing by estimation — acres by rent and service, &c.	2d.
English.—The same Roger claims to hold another tenure there by rent, &c.	1d.
English.—Jenkyng Goz claims to hold there certain lands by rent, &c.	8s. 4d.
Welsh.—Robert Morgan Richard Morgan Lln Morgan John Morgan Mawde vz Hoell Morgan for their Welsh lands there by rent	2s.

Welsh.—John Lln claims to hold 3 parcels of land at Llandettye, one parcel whereof is called Teyer Jeny Proser, the second is called Teyer Ykays in Wenalte, and the third is called Teyer Nest Richard, containing by estimation 18 acres Welsh by the rent, &c.	12d.
Welsh.—Meredyth ap Rees claims to hold 1 tenement with the appurtenances in a places called Tavehan by rent and service, &c., Welsh	2s. 8d.
Welsh.—Watkin Hoell Llin claims to hold 1 tenement with the appurtenances by Welsh tenure, by rent and and service, &c.	12d.
Welsh.—Thomas Lln claims to hold certain lands as of his free tenement in the place called Cranant as of Welsh tenure, by rent, &c.	10d.
Welsh.—Jevan Meredyth claims to hold 1 tenement with the appurtenances in the place called Llanvigan by Welsh tenure, by rent, &c.	12d.
Welsh.—Philip Jenkyng 4 acres of Welsh land and as the jurors present to this court he holds them as of free tenement at Llandettye by rent, &c.	10d.
Welsh.—Meredyth Games claims to hold as of free tenement certain parcels of land in Llan St. Fryde by rent and service as Welsh lands	2d.
English.—Lewys Rychard Gunter, Esq., claims to hold certain lands at Llan Vygan as of free tenement by English tenure by rent, &c.	5s. 4d.
English.—Roger Thomas claims to hold one tenement with the appurtenances at Llan St. Bryde as of English tenure by rent and service, &c.	16d.
Welsh.—Jenkin Morgan claims to hold one tenement at Llan Vronye as of free tenement by Welsh tenure containing 12 acres of land, but in the Court Rolls it appears to be held by indenture and not of free tenement Welsh. Therefore query, by rent.....	20d.
Welsh.—John Edmond claims to hold one acre of land as by Welsh tenure by the rent and tervice thereof first due and of right accustomed	2d.
Welsh.—William Watkyng Gunter claims to hold one tenement with the appurtenances at Llan Vygan as of free tenement Welsh, by rent, &c.	2s. 3d.
Query.—Watkin Jenkyng Morgan claims to hold one tenement at Gylston containing by estimation 60 acres of land, but by what service and tenure the jurors aforesaid upon their oaths ought to present at the next court, by the re-nt	4d.
Welsh.—The same Watkin claims to hold one other tenement at Talybant [containing by] estimation 10 acres Welsh by rent and service, &c.	4d.
English.—Jevan ap Androwe claims to hold one tenement with the appurtenances as of his free tenement English by rent and service, &c.	10d.
Welsh.—Thomas gllm goz claims to hold one tenement with the appurtenances of his free tenement Welsh by rent and service, &c.	2d.
Welsh.—Walter David claims to hold certain lands at Llan Vygan as of his free tenement Welsh by rent and service, &c.	8d.
English.—Thomas ap Thomas claims to hold certain lands at Llanvygan as of his free tenement English by rent and service	11d.
Welsh.—David ap Roger DD ap Hoell claims to hold certain lands at Llan Vygan as of his free tenement Welsh by rent and service	11d.
English.—Llykye Rychard claims to hold certain lands at Llan Vygo as of his free tenement English by rent and service, &c.	11d.
Welsh.—Jenkin DD Thomas claims to hold one tenement with the appurtenances at Llan Vygan containing by estimation 5 acres Welsh by rent and service	5d.
Sum	£1 17s. 7d.

TENANTS WHO HOLD BY INDENTURE OF CERTAIN DEMISES.

Jevan John ap Jevan Madock holds one tenement with the appurtenances and a parcel of land called Teyr Todogan for the term of his life of the demise (lease) of Walter Vaghan, Esq., dated the 20th day of September in the 4th and 5th year of Phillip and Mary, by service and rent, &c.	5s.
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Walter William with others holds by Indenture divers parcels of land for the term of his life, lying between the water there called gunles of the demise (lease) of Walter Vaghan, Esq., dated the 20th day of December in the 10th year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, by rent 18s. 4d.

The same Walter Gllm and others hold by indenture for term of life 2 messuages of the demise of Walter Vaghan, Esq., and Thomas Vaghan his son, dated the last day of May in the first year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, by the rent 5s. 4d.

The same Walter Gllm holds by indenture one close of land called Guys Goules by the demise of Walter Vaghan, Esq., and Thomas his son, dated the last day of May in the 1st year of Queen Elizabeth, by rent 5s. 10d.

The same Walter Gllm holds by indenture one tenement with the appurtenances called Teyer Courte of the demise of Richard Vaghan, Knight, for the term of 99 years, dated the 14th day of January, 20 Hen. VIII., by the rent 18s. 4d.

Jenkin ap Rosser holds by indenture one barn with 4 acres of land, Welsh, of the demise of Walter Vaghan, Esq., for the term of 20 years, dated the 10th day of January in the 9th year of Queen Elizabeth, by rent, &c. 6s. 4d.

Thomas ap Jevan Hyggine holds by indenture one tenement with the appurtenances of the demise of Walter Vaghan, Esq., for the term of 21 years, the patrimony of Jevan ap Higgin by the last will of his father which is dated the 22nd day of September in the 5th and 6th year of Philip and Mary, &c. 8s. 4d.

Henry Vaghan holds by indenture one tenement with the water course with the appurtenances of the demise of Walter Vaghan, Esq., for the term of 21 years, the date whereof is the 6th day of May in the 13th year of Queen Elizabeth, by rent, &c. 10s.

Jevan Hoell holds by indenture one tenement with the appurtenances of the demise of Walter Vaghan, Esq., and Thomas his son, not shown 2s.

Morgan ap Richard ap Hoell holds one tenement with the appurtenances of the demise of Walter Vaghan, Esq., and Thomas Vaghan his son, for the term of his life, dated the last day of May in the 1st year of Queen Elizabeth, by the rent 6s. 8d.

Morgan ap DD of Llan St. Frede holds one tenement with the appurtenances of the demise of Walter Vaghan, Esq., and Thomas Vaghan his son, for the term of 21 years, dated the 4th day of October, 11 Eliz., by rent 6s. 8d.

William Thomas ap Jevan ap Phe and others hold equally one tenement with the appurtenances of the demise of Walter Vaghan, Esq., for term of life, dated the last day of January, 4 Edw. 6, by the rent. 16s. 8d.

Margaret ap Hoell holds one tenement with the appurtenances of the demise of Walter Vaghan, Esq., for the term of 21 years, as it is said, but not shown 8s.

Johan DD ap Wakyng, widow, claims to hold one tenement with the appurtenances at the will of the Lord during her life, by rent 4d.

David ap Morgan ap Jevan and others hold one tenement with the appurtenances of the demise of Walter Vaghan, Esq., and Thomas Vaghan his son, for the term of his life, dated the 20th day of October, 8 Eliz., by the rent . . . 23s. 4d.

Morgan ap Jevan ap Morgan holds one tenement with the appurtenances of the demise of Walter Vaghan, Esq., for the term of his life, dated 29 August, 8 Eliz., by the rent. 8s. 4d.

John ap Jevan ap John Yghan with others holds one tenement of the demise of Walter Vaghan, Esq., for term of life, dated 2 October, 5 Eliz., by rent . . . 10s.

Andrew Watkyng holds by indenture one way leading to the common there called Combano, not shown, by the rent 12d.

Morgan Gryffyth of Penkellye claims by indenture here one orchard in Penkellye aforesaid, but it is not shown, by the rent 2d.

Madock ap DD and Phe Madock ap DD hold one tenement at St. Brydes by indenture of the demise of Richard Vaghan, Knight, for a term of years, as it is said, but not shown, by the rent 5s.

William ap Rees holds by indenture of the demise of Walter Vaghan the moiety of one close of land called Guys goules Issa for the term of 21 years, dated the 7th day of May, 6 Eliz., by rent 5s. 10d.

The same William holds by indenture of the demise of Richard Vaghan, Knight, one close of land called Kay Eynon for the term of 99 years, dated the 6th day of July, 29 Hen. 8, by the rent 20d.

The same William holds at the will of the lord one close of land called Kay Juer by the rent and service thereof, &c. 8s. 4d.

Sum £7 18s. 10d.

Sum total of the yearly rent by the year there, except Comortha and the perquisites of the court, as it shall happen, to wit £10 11s. 5d.

COMORTHA TO BE PAID EVERY SECOND YEAR.

Meredith John Meredyth	2d.
Walter Hoell	2s.
DD ap Rosser DD Hoell	10d.
Lykye Richard, widow	10d.
Thomas ap Thomas	8d.
Walter David	4d.
William ap Rees	10d.
The same William	8d.
John Morgan	8d.
Meredyth Games	1d.

Sum 6s. 8d.

FREE TENANTS WHO OWE SUIT AT COURT PAY NOTHING BUT HERIOTS.

The jurors say upon their oaths that William Games, Esq., for his lands at Llan Vronye, James Apparrye, Esq., for his lands at Llan Vronye, William Awbrey, Doctor of Laws, at Llan Vronye, John Walbye, gentleman, for lands in the parish of Brenocke, John Thomas ap John for lands at Llan Vrugos (?), William Thomas ap Jenkyng for lands at Llan Vygors, Meredyth John Meredyth for lands at Llan, and Thomas ap Jevan for lands at Llan Vronye, owe suit at every court held within the manor of Penkelly aforesaid by reasonable summons, and to do all other charges thereof first due and of right accustomed, &c.

* * Several tenants of the Manor are said to be "free." They owed suit at Court, but paid nothing beyond Heriots at death. The names of William Games, James Apparry, William Awbrey, and John Walbye occur among these free tenants.

10.—MANOR OF PENKELLY.

19 ELIZ., VOL. 177, No. 58.

CHAN. INQN. P.M.

Inquisition taken at Stratford Llangthorne in co. Essex 7 February, 19 Eliz. [1577] before Thomas Barrington, Knt., and others, after the death of Walter Earl of Essex, by the oath of William Dunce, &c., &c., jurors, who say that

The said Earl was seized of the Manor of Hallingburye Parva alias Hallingburie Bourghcher in co. Essex, &c., &c.

So seized, the said Earl made his will 13 June, 1576, as follows :

And furthermore I leave to descend to my heir in course of inheritance the manors of Newington, &c., &c. . . . and all that my manor of Penkelly with the

appurtenances in co. Brecknock, with all and singular my lands, tenements, rents, revenues and hereditaments in Newington and Penkelley, &c., &c., which said premises are a full third part of all my manors, lands, &c.

The said Earl of Essex died 22 September last past; Robert now Earl of Essex is his son and heir, and was aged 11 years on the 10th day of November last past.

11.—MANOR OF PENKELLY CASTLE.

A true and perfect Survey and Rent Roll of the names of all the tennantes of the said Mannor and Lordshippe of John Powell, Gentleman, together with the severall summes due upon each of the said tenants upon theire severall and respective Lands as at theire names appeareth and payable unto the said John Powell, Gentleman, at every the feast of St. Michael the archangell yearly.

VAYNOR PARISHE.

William Morgan, Esq., for two parcells of Landes in Vaynor.

Richard David for his house and landes called Pen-y-Gelly.

Lewis William Thomas for his house and lands in Pen-y-Gelly wherein Johan Thomas now liveth.

William Meredith for his house and lands called Pen-yr-adwy-Meane.

Roger William for his house and landes wherein he now liveth by Pont-y-Stickell.

Richard David, junior, for his house and landes called Llwyn-y-Braine.

Lewis William for his house and landes where William Edward John Traharne liveth called Pant-y-Vaynor.

The said Lewis for ye severall houses and landes called Tyr Bryn Rees.

Lewis Watkin Richard for the landes lyeinge betweene Bryn Rees and Pant-y-Vaynor.

Richard William and William John for ye house and lands called Pen Rhyw yr Glaish.

Morgan Prees William for his house and landes att Pen Rhwy yr Glaish.

John Robert for the severall houses and landes wherein his mother and he now live.

Henry William for his house and landes lyeinge betweene the landes of John Robert and Koed-y-Rymor.

Thomas Jenkin, senior, for his house and landes.

Thomas Jenkin Phillipp for his house and landes in Taue Vaure.

The said Thomas Jenkin Phillipp for his house and landes where in Rees William and Miriah Powell now live.

John Thomas for his house and lands called Abercarr.

Walter Jones, gentleman, for the severall houses and landes called Tyr-y-fedye.

The said Walter Jones for the house and landes where Jenkin John Rees now liveth.

William Morgan for Tir-y-Grauten and his house and landes where he now liveth.

William Meredith for his house and landes called Dan-y-Graig in Taue Vaure.

Edward David for his house and landes in Taue Vaure.

The lands where Evan John Bevan now liveth.

Jonnett Watkin Meredith for the lands wherein Morgan Robert now liveth.

William Howell for his house and landes called Tyr-y-Cwne.

LLANFIGNACH PARISHE.

The Lady Beachampe for the landes in the handes of Phillip Maddocke and Watkyn Gwynn.

Richard Jones for his house and landes now in the occupation of William Howell.

Phillip Maddockes for the house and lands where he now liveth.

The Lady Beachampe for the house and landes where Thomas David Prees now liveth.

Henry Thomas for the house and landes where Howell Thomas David Meredith now liveth.

Richard John Meredith for his house and landes called Cumeynwyn.

Gwenllian, the wife of Howell Meredith, for her house and lands.
 Thomas Gunter for the landes called Tille Lloyd.

LLANVAN (?) PARISH.

John Jeffreys, Esquire, for the house and the pl. above the house in Edstroogewynne.

Richard Jeffreys, Esq., for the lands late of William Powell and now in the possession of John Bevan.

John Jeffreys for the lands called Aperpedole.

Edward Powell, Esq., for his landes in Penkelly, late of William Vaughan.

Edward Powell, Esq., for the house of Harry the smyth.

Edward Powell, Esq., for the house of Poolsurpill and Kadbach.

William Jones, Esq., for the lands called Y Pank (?) Gwynn ne Gwrlod Howell Bach.

William Jones, Esq., for Tyr Blaen Cuy.

Edward Games for Tyr Kilvach Collan.

John Games for Tyr Llwyn y Buttur.

Gladis Gunter, widdow, for Tir Errow yr Ffynon.

Gladis Gunter, widow, for the old house and the close by the house where Jenkin John lives.

Walter Phillips for the house and the meadow by the house of Bwyn-y-Bair.

Thomas Bowens, Esq., for Tyr Pant y Coytre.

Thomas Bowens, Esq., for Rhandy Ychlow yr Ffordd, being the lands of Watkin Bevan.

William Pritchard for his land called Tyr-y-Apediodd.

David ap Evan for Tyr Kaye-yr-Allt called Errw-yr-Spydwydd.

Lewis Gunter, gent., for Barnartand Wytkerne (?).

Lewis Gunter, gent., for his landes Y Bir erne.

Thomas Bowens, Esq., for his landes called Tir Lewis William Kae Ycha, Kae Yssa and Kae Kennoll.

Jenkin John for the house and garden.

Howell Powell (?) for the old soyle and orchyard called Ty Pen-y-Twyn.

Henry Games for his landes called Rhandir y Porth.

Mary Powell for her landes called Kae Scogin, late in ye occupacion of John Morgan.

Mary Powell for ye landes called Kae Janewaka, late in the occupation of John Morgan.

Meredith John for the house and garden where he liveth.

For Tyr Close y Porth.

David ap Evan for Tyr David ap Howell.

LLANVRYNACH.

Bartholomew Games for ye landes of Tregare.

John Maddocks for Katermele Keven yr Hendynwyn y Pwll, y Kefan.

Gladis Gunter for her landes called Kaesykollogy.

Evan Powell for his [house] and landes in Cum-Morgum.

John Maddocks for his landes called Y Kayre.

William Meredith for his landes called Kae William Brick.

LLANVILLO PARISHE.

Edmond Jones, Esq., for his house and landes in Trevithe (?) called Y Wurd (?).

John Williams, Esq., for his landes called Terllenovalle.

John Williams, Esq., for the lands wherein William Howell lives called Tyr (?) Dar yr Allt.

John Williams, Esq., for part of the house and landes called (?)

[MEMBRANE 2.]

Morgan Thomas Bowen for ye house and landes where he now dwelleth in Tyllecwrwnn.

Thomas ap Thomas of Tallachdy for his landes in Llanvillo.

Owen Christopher.

Roger Havard for the house and landes called Keven y Ffordd.

William John Prees for his house and garden in Tredomen.

Jonnet Havard.

James Parry of Trostrey, gent.

Hugh Lewis of Trevithe.

William Awbrey of Brecon for his garden.

Watkin Prees for his house and garden.

Thomas David for a house, barne, and one close in Trevithe.

Thomas Havard for three acres of land by Allt yr Honow.

LLANDETTY PARISHE.

John Morgan for ye house and lands of Glawcod.

John Morgan for ye meadow by Wenallt House.

Richard Jenkin for his house and Coadkae yr Mort.

David Richard Jenkin for ye Gelly Bant.

Howell Prees for part of the lands of Gelly Bant.

Thomas Gunter for the landes called Kae Katherin Gunter.

John Howell Gunter for his lands called Tyr y Barren.

For the lands of Abercriban.

William Phillip Lewis for the house and landes where he dwelleth.

David Richard Jenkin for his landes called Tyr Bryn y Gwynydd.

William Lewis for Tyr yr Yskir.

William Thomas and Richard Watkin for the house and landes where they dwell.

Lewis Richard Jenkin for the landes called Yr Wrlode hiz ar lan ta fe vechan.

Edward Powell, esquier, for Tir y Dole Bach.

Thomas Powell for his landes, late in the ocupacion of John Tho. Wm. in ye Wenallt.

Barsillay Jones for Tir y ke fen called Y Kae Gwynn.

LLANSANFREAD.

William Bowen, Esq.

Henry Vaughan, Doctor of Physick.

Cottagers in Vaynor Parishe.

[ENDORSED] MANOR OF PENKELLY CASTLE.

An ancient Survey and Rent Roll without date (in a later handwriting) in the time of Hugh Powell, gent.

12.—GRANT OF ENGLISH PENKELLY MANOR TO RICHARD AND EDWARD STANHOPE.

PATENT ROLL, 43 ELIZ., PART 8, MEMB. 37-39 (1601).

OF A GRANT TO HIMSELF AND HIS HEIRS FOR MICHAEL STANHOPE, ESQ., AND OTHERS.

The Queen to all to whom, &c., greeting. Know ye that We in consideration of the sum of £779 19s. 6d. in hand paid to the Receipt of Our Exchequer into the hands of Our beloved servant Edward Carie, Knight, to Our use, by Our beloved subject Michael Stanhope, Esq., one of the grooms of Our Privy Chamber of Our special grace, certain knowledge and mere motion have given and granted and by these presents for Us Our heirs and successors do give and grant to the said Michael Stanhope and to Our beloved subject Edward Stanhope, Doctor of Laws and one of the Masters of Our Court of Chancery, and to their heirs and assigns all that Our manor of English Penkelly alias English Pinkelley alias English Pynkelly, in our County of Brecon, with all its rights, members and appurtenances by the particular thereof of the yearly rent or value of

£18 11s. 5d. per annum, late parcel of the lands and possessions of Robert late Earl of Essex, lately attainted of high treason; also all and singular the messuages, mills, houses, buildings, structures, barns, stables, dove cotes, orchards, appleyards, gardens, shops, cellars, sollars, lands, tenements, meadows, feedings, pastures, commons, demesne, lands, wastes, furze, heath, moors, marshes, woods, underwoods, tithes of sheaves, corn, grain, hay, wool, linen, hemp and lambs and all other tithes whatsoever as well great as small; also oblations, obventions, fruits, profits, waters, fishings, fisheries, suits, sock, mulcture, warrens, mines, quarries, rents, reversions and services, rent charges, rents dry and rents and services as well of free as of customary tenants, works of tenants, farms, fee farms, annuities, knights fees, wards, marriages, escheats, reliefs, heriots, fines, amerciements, courts leet, views of frank pledge, perquisites and profits of courts and leets, and all things belonging to courts leet and views of frank pledge, cattle waived, estrays, bondmen, bondwomen and villeins with their belongings, estovers and commons of estover, fairs, markets, tolls, customs, rights, jurisdictions, franchises, privileges, profits, commodities, emoluments and hereditaments whatsoever, with all their appurtenances of whatsoever kind, nature or sort, or by whatsoever names they may be known or called, lying, being, forthcoming, growing or emerging within the said County of Brecon to the said manor and other the premises above by these presents granted, or any of them in any way belonging, appertaining, incident or appendent or reputed to be member, part or parcel of the said manor and other the premises or any of them; also the reversion and reversions whatsoever of all the said manors, messuages, lands, tenements and hereditaments whatsoever, and of every part thereof.

We also give to the said Michael and Edward Stanhope their heirs and assigns all and all manner of Our woods, underwoods and trees whatsoever growing in and upon all and singular the premises or any part thereof; and all the land, ground and soil of the same woods, underwoods and trees; also the reversion and reversions of all the said premises; also the rents and yearly profits whatsoever reserved upon whatsoever demises or grants made of the said premises or any part thereof; also the rents and yearly profits of all and singular the said premises.

Also We have given and granted by these presents to the said Michael and Edward Stanhope and their heirs and assigns for ever that they may have hold and enjoy within the said premises all, so much, such and the like courts leet, views of frank pledge, law dais, assize and assize of bread, wine and ale, cattle waived, estrays, chattels of felons and fugitives, felons of themselves and put in exigend, deodands, knights fees, wards, marriages, escheats, reliefs, heriots, free warrens and all other rights, jurisdictions, franchises, liberties, customs, profits, commodities, emoluments and hereditaments whatsoever as, which and suchlike, and as fully, freely, and wholly, and in such ample manner and form as the aforesaid Robert late Earl of Essex, or any other at any time heretofore held the said manor, messuages, lands, tenements, and other the premises or any part thereof, by reason of any charter, gift, grant or confirmation heretofore made or granted by Us or by any of Our progenitors, and as fully and freely and in such ample manner and form as We or any of Our progenitors had or enjoyed the said premises.

We also by these presents give and grant to the said Michael and Edward and their heirs and assigns all the said premises with all their appurtenances as fully, freely, and wholly and in such ample manner and form as the said premises came into Our hands or into the hands of Our most dear father and brother Henry the 8th and Edward the 6th, late Kings of England, or into the hands of Our most dear sister Mary, late Queen of England, by reason of the dissolution or surrender of any of the late monasteries or Priories, or by pretext of any exchange or purchase, or of any gift or grant, or of any attainder or forfeiture, or by reason of any Act of Parliament, or by reason of escheats or any other lawful manner, right, or title: Which said Manor of English Penkelly by the particular thereof extends to the yearly rent or value of £18 11s. 5d. per annum: Except nevertheless and always reserving to Us and Our heirs all advowsons, free gifts, and right of patronage of all and singular Churches, vicarages, chapels, and ecclesiastical benefices whatsoever to the said premises belonging and appertaining: To have, hold, and enjoy the said manor, messuages, lands, &c., &c., &c., and all and singular the

premises above expressed and specified, and the reversion of all the said premises, except as above excepted, to the said Michael and Edward Stanhope, their heirs and assigns, to the sole use of them, their heirs and assigns for ever : To hold all the said premises of Us, Our heirs and successors as of Our manor of East Greenwich, in co. Kent, by fealty only in free and common socage and not in chief or by knights service for all other rents, services, exactions, and demands whatsoever thereof to Us, Our heirs and successors in any way to be paid, rendered, or made.

And further We give to the said Michael and Edward all the issues, rents, revenues, and profits of all the said premises and of every part thereof from the Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary the Virgin last past forthcoming or growing up to the present time : To have to them of Our gift, without any account of the same to be made to Us or Our heirs.

[Then follow clauses as to corrodies, fees, annuities, &c., with various exceptions ; also commands as to the enrolment of the said Letters Patent, notwithstanding, &c., &c.]

Witness the Queen at Westminster the 4th day of September.

By writ of Privy Seal, &c.

16.—[INDORSED].—WALES.—RENTAL OF PENKELLY WALLENSIS.
COM. BRECON.

RECEIVED DEC. 1ST, 1787.

Among the Records in the custody of the Keeper of Her Majesty's Land Revenue Records and Enrolments in Box No. 48, is the following :—

LAND REVENUE OFFICE,
SCOTLAND YARD.

The Commissioners appointed by an Act of Parliament, intituled, " An Act for appointing Commissioners to enquire into the State and Condition of the Woods, Forests, and Land Revenues belonging to the Crown, and to sell or alienate Fee Farm and other unimprovable Rents," do, in Pursuance of the said Act, hereby require you to make out and transmit to them a Rental, of all the Rents due to the Crown in your Collection within the Manor or Lordship of Penkelley Wallensis otherwise Welsh Penkelley (according to the Form herewith sent you) specifying the Amount of each Rent, for what Messuages, Lands, or Tenements the same is payable ; and whether such Messuages, Lands, or Terements are Freehold, Copyhold, or Leasehold under the Crown ; the Land Tax (if any) allowed out of each Rents (sic) ; the Names and Residence of the persons from whom the same are due ; and to what time each Rent is paid ; and where any Rent is more than one year in arrear, to state the reason why such Rents have not been collected ; with any other Observations which you may think fit to make relative thereto, such Rental to be verified on Oath before a Justice of the Peace, and transmitted to this Board on or before the last day of November next.

Given under our Hands and Seals this Eighteenth Day of September, 1787.

(Sd.) CHAS. MIDDLETON.

(Sd.) JNO. CALL.

To

The Bailiff of Penkelley Wallensis, otherwise
Welsh Penkelley, in the County of Brecon.

FORM OF THE ACCOUNT.

MANOR OR LORDSHIP OF PENKELLEY WALLENSIS, OTHERWISE WELSH PENKELLEY,
IN COM. BRECON.

A Rental of all the Rents due and payable to his Majesty within the Manor or Lordship aforesaid in the Collection of the Bailiff there made out in pursuance of a Precept from the Commissioners of the Land Revenue dated the Eighteenth day of September, 1787.

Names of the Tenants from what the Rents are received.	Name and Description of Estate.	Names of Proprietors.	* Annual Rent received from each Person by the Bailif.	Land Tax allowed out of each Rent.	To what Time Paid.
			s. d.		
Wm. Howell	Bryn Jack	David Davies	0 4		1784
William Jenkin	Cwm Car	Alice Phillip Morgan	6 8		Do.
John Jenkin	Blaen Car	John Jenkin	0 11		Do.
David Nicholas	Wain alias Wern Dee	Morgan Jdd. Prichard	0 4		Do.
Thomas Llewellyn	Tir Wain Goch		0 5		Mic. 1780
Thomas Llewellyn	Tuy yn y Coed	William Morgan	0 8		1768
Rees Williams	Pentwyn	Rees Williams	0 9		1784
Howel Thomas	Tor y Gare	.....	1 4		1781
Phillip Thomas	Blaen Callan	Mary Watkins	0 8		1784
William Powell	Boinna Gleision	William Powell	3 4		1784
John Jenkin	Tir Coan yr Alt	Mrs Thomas	0 8		1784
Thos. Williams	Tuy Dee	Howell Prichard	0 6		1781
William Thomas	Tor y Glase	William Thomas	3 4		1784
George Thomas	Llwyn Onn	.....	2 3		1784
George Lewis	Glas Cwm	George Lewis	0 8		1784
Thos. Prosser	Gelly Bant	.....	0 8		1784
Llewellyn Morgan	Llwyn Thelin	Catherine Morgan	0 6		1784
.....	Tir y Thevin	Thomas Prosser	0 8		1784
Thos. Jenkin	Brin Mellin	Jane James	1 10		1784
John Powell	Gwern y Gavar	M. Hanbury	1 2		1784
Evan Morgan	Peny Baily	R. Ramsey	0 10		1784
Griffith Griffiths	Peny Baily	Griffith Griffiths	0 2		1784
Richd. Jenkin	Llwyn y Rhios	M. Hanbury	0 8		1782
William Thomas	Panty Wennalt	John Williams	0 7		1768
John David Abraham	Dan y Wennalt	Thos. Wm. Watkins	0 9	0 9	1784
John Gunter	Pen y Dorlan	George Lewis	0 2		1784
Robert Haines	Tir y Origgie	Thynne Howe Gwynne	0 4½	0 2	1784
— Morgan	Mais Mawr	George Lewis	5 10	0 4½	1765
Howell Thomas	Car ver Evor	Thos. & Jane Meredith	2 0	2 11	1771
— Morgan	Cwmbranu	Richard Lewis	1 0		1784
David Thomas	Blaen Nant	Thomas Phillips	0 8		1777
David Prosser	Gwem Lledder	— Wilkins	0 9	0 8	1781
— Vaughan	Tily Cwm	Mr. Moody	5 4		1779
William Thomas	Tor Glase	Thomas Williams	1 4	4 8	1784
Thomas Evans	Llwn Mallin	Meredith Evan	0 2		1784
John Howell Evan	Pentwyn	John Howell Evan	0 4	0 2	1784
Winifred Thomas	Lands near Coity	John Williams	0 1	0 4	

* These Rents are Chief or Fee Farm Rents issuing out of Freehold Tenements, very many of which cannot possibly be identified.

NAMES OF TENANTS.	NAMES OF TENEMENTS..	RENTS.
		s. d.
David Price	Pant y Lleverith	2 0
Late Gladis Games	For Caig not known	2 0
Wm. John Mason .....	.....	0 1
Margt. Thomas, Widow .....	.....	0 1
Elizabeth Thomas, Widow .....	.....	0 4½
.....	Bryn y Brair	0 9½
Late Edw. Williams	Cwm Wain	2 6
Late Mrs Phillips	Tir y Ton	2 0
Late Ed. Williams	Poor's Land in Llanvigan	0 3½
Late Elizabeth Madox .....	.....	0 1
Late Thomas Gunter .....	.....	0 1
Late Mrs Jones	Coity	8 0
Late Thomas Phillips	Blan Nant	0 8
Late Mrs Phillips	Cwm Crgwm	3 8
Late Mrs Powell	Cwm Orgwm	0 10
Mrs Phillips	For Lands said to be in the possession of Thos. John	0 4
Late Phillip Lewis	Late Morgan Powell	0 6

For all the above, the Receiver has never been able to get one payment. The Boundaries of this with other Manors being so intermixed and unknown.

Late Mrs Harry	Lands in Cwm Orgwm	0	4	pd. 1777
Meredith Thomas	Cwm Orgwm	1	5	Commoth every other year 3s.

The Rents due 1787, I have paid the Auditor. The Tenants will pay the money I have advanced between this and May.

There is a Heriot of ten shillings on the death of every freehold Tenant and an Alienation of ten shillings on the sale of every freehold tenement within the Manor, but the difficulty of ascertaining the Boundaries of the Manor, the expense of holding Courts for that purpose, and the Bailiffs fees for Distraining makes it communibus annis not adequate to the expense.

BRECONSHIRE.—Thynne H. Gwynne, Esq., came voluntarily before me, one of his Matyes Justices of the Peace in and for the said County, and made Oath that the return hereon is true to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Sworn at Brecon,

THYNNE HOWE GWYNNE.

Nov. 29, 1787,

before me

PENN WATKINS.

I certify the foregoing to be a true copy from the said Records pursuant to the Act, 15 & 16 Vict., cap. 82, Section 8.

MAURICE HEWLETT,

July 22nd, 1898.

Keeper of the Records.

The Penkelly Manors.

(ADDITIONAL).

Since the above was printed off, I have found the following interesting account of these Manors, which appears in a letter from a Mr. George Jones, apparently written at Carmarthen, to some one at Brecon. The only date is "Sunday morning," but from the contents it seems to have been written about seven years after the purchase of the Buckland estate and Penkelly Manors by Mr. Roderick Gwynne of Glanbran Park, which took place in 1756. That would bring the date of the letter to 1763, or just the year after his son Thynne Howe Gwynne became Steward of Welsh Penkelly Manor under the Crown.

The writer of the letter was evidently very familiar with the Penkelly Manors and their customs and management, and gives the most intelligible and reasonable account of them that I have yet met with. I make therefore no excuse for adding the letter here.

DEAR SIR,—I take the liberty of mentioning to you that I purpose being at Brecknock on Wednesday, and to do myself the pleasure of waiting upon you.

In ye meantime I am with respect,

Dear Sir,

Your most obedt. hble. servant,

(Sgd.) GEO. JONES.

Carmn., Sunday morning.

In ye Hundred of Penkelly and County of Brecon are five Lordships called Welsh Penkelly, belonging to the King: 2d, English Penkelly belonging to Roderick Gwynne,

Esq.; 8d, Penkelly, otherwise Penkelly Cwmorgan, belonging to John Powell, Esq.; 4th Wenallt, belonging to ye same Roderick Gwynne, Esq.; and 5th, Llanvrenach, belonging to Edward Vaughan, Esq. These five Lordships lie within ye four Parishes of Llanvrenach, Llanvigan, Llanthe, and Veynor, and ye Bounds of the Parishes are ye Bounds of the Lordships, but ye Lordships themselves have no particular separate Boundaries but lie intermixed through ye whole four Parishes (except a part of English Penkelly, and Penkelly, otherwise Penkelly Cwmorgan, which lies in ye Parish of Llanvilloe (?), and which were always enjoyed by Mr. Gwynne and Mr. Powell only).

For these several Lordships there are as many different Leet and Baron Courts held, and Suitors being dispersed in ye several Parishes attend one or other of these Courts and some of them attend two or more of them, if not held on ye same day.

Each of ye Lords have also Chief Rents from Persons residing in each of ye several Parishes; they have also Heriots upon Deaths and fines upon Alienations, as well as each of them his Bailiff who is ye Commons and Wastes and takes up Estrays and he who takes ye Estray has it and sometimes two have collected jointly and then divided them. But neither can appoint a Constable in his Leet. In this manner they have been held and enjoyed time out of mind, but ye Country has a notion that these Lordships were once in and was but one Lordship; that it afterwards came to five daughters, one of whom by some Act forfeited her share to the Crown. Or it might have descended in Gavelkind (the common Tenure in Wales) between as many sons, and one of them might have forfeited. But this is purely imaginary, without any proof more than common rumour.

Thus each Lord enjoyed his respective right; ye Tenants enjoyed ye Commons over ye four Parishes and dug stones upon ye wastes for repairing their Walls adjoining to ye Mountains without any the least interruption till very lately: when Mr. Gwynne, who purchased Penalt and English Penkelly about 7 years agoe, put up a separate Right and wants to exclude ye other Lords; and accordingly about two years agoe gave a Licence to some persons to erect Lime Kilns, and dig and burn the stones upon a Common in ye Parish of Veynor. Whereupon Mr. Powell and Mr. Vaughan gave Licence to another person to do the same in ye same place, which he did, and for this Mr. Gwynne has brought an action of Trover against him.

N.B.—Neither of ye Lords ever dug stones on this Common before; because as supposed ye Common being but small they would not injure ye Tenants by destroying ye Herbage.

N.B.—Also the Person of whom Mr. Gwynne purchased always paid a Chief Rent for his Lands in English Penkelly, and Heriots have been paid upon ye death of the former Lords to Mr. Powell and those under whom he claims and Mr. Gwynne had Notice of it at the time of his Purchase.

N.B.—Mr. Powell also pays a Chief Rent to ye King, and 10s. in lieu of a Heriot upon a death is also due to his Majesty.

(Endorsed) PENKELLY LORDSHIP.

I have also to add, that it would appear from the Perambulation made in 1870 by the Steward of the Brecon Lordship on behalf of Lord Tredegar, that a small portion of that Lordship extends into the Penkelly Manors, and includes a part of Llanddettty Parish near Ashford. If so, it is a curious circumstance, and I shall hope to find the explanation later. The Penkelly Manor papers, that I have seen, make no reference to the existence of any such right.

Lands of Strata Florida Abbey in Breconshire.

This important Abbey, known by the Welsh name of Manachlog Fawr, stood in the Valley of the Teivy, in Cardiganshire, not far from Tregaron. It is a wild district, but famous for its sheep, and you will find to-day on inquiring from some of the drovers bringing their flocks on a Thursday along the old Builth road to Brecon, that they have brought them from Tregaron. When this Abbey flourished, prior of course to the Reformation and the seizure of its estates by Henry VIII., it held large tracts of wild land in Cardiganshire and a manor in Radnorshire, in the Elan and Claerwen valleys, called the Grange, and I had an idea in my mind that it also possessed lands in Breconshire, and there is a tradition handed down that all the country between the Irvon and Towy (or Teify) rivers was once the property of this Abbey.

It has been of interest to me, therefore, to find the following old paper, being a lease by the Abbot of Strata Florida, dated 1517, of a parcel of land called Ibebilla, in the Lordship of Brecon, to one Roger ap Thomas ap Gwilym for 99 years. The name of the land puzzles me, and I shall be glad of assistance in locating it. My own impression is that it is the land near Llanwrtyd, now called Cefn Trebedd Willim, the name being possibly a corruption of Tre or Tir Abad Willim, the land of the Abbot held by William. And of course there is the further difficulty that it is not in the Lordship of Brecon, but this may be explained if we assume that the Abbot in his lease considered the whole County of Brecon as Brecon lordship. Cilpebyll in Glamorganshire, is more like Ibebilla, and our Bailyhelig near Brecon, but it is not likely the Abbey held lands so far away. This lease is extant for the reason (like that of Usk Mill by the Prior of Brecon) that the current leases were respected by the Crown, and became a continuing holding under it after the dissolution.

INDENTURE OF ROGER AP THOMAS AP GILM FOR THE FARM OF ONE PARCEL OF LAND
CALLED IBEBILLWA.

[Land Revenue Office, South Wales Enrolments, Vol. I. fo. 14.]

[Translation.]

Know all men by these presents that we Richard Abbot of the Monastery of the Blessed Mary the Virgin of Strata Florida with the consent and assent of the Convent of the same place have given, granted, and let to farm to Roger ap Thomas ap William and his heirs, one parcel of land commonly called Ibebilla, lying in the Lordship of Brecon, To hold from the Feast of the Apostles Philip and James last past for the term of 99 years, paying yearly to us and our successors for the profit and tithe to us belonging 20d. at the Feast of St. Michael and a heriot when it shall happen, viz., 2s. And it shall not be lawful for the said Roger and his heirs to alienate the said land without the licence of the said Abbot, and if the said Roger shall be in arrears with the said rent then it shall be lawful for the said Abbot to re-enter the said parcel of land, this deed notwithstanding.

Given in our Chapter House the 13th day of May, 1517.

The said Abbot and Convent and Roger ap Thomas grant to Meredith ap Thomas ap William the *spewryght part of the said parcel of land paying after the rate as Roger ap Thomas does during the said term.

Enrolled 19th October, 1 Edw. 6 [1547].

* Spewryght may denote his calling, as a spear-wright, the maker of spears, or as a wheelright, the maker of wheels (spheres).

Venny Wood.

Everyone knows Venny Wood, and in this instance there is no doubt as to the part of our county where it can be seen.

“ Where Yscir winds, by Gaer’s deserted mound,
And Venni’s brow with silver honours crowned.”

And another describes it in prose as the “circling knoll of Venni’s Wood, sloping downwards to the river’s edge, with its many-tinted foliage.”

I have found an old paper about this wood. Of course, as nearly all land near Brecon once was, it had been the property of the unfortunate Edward, Duke of Buckingham, and had passed to the Crown on his attainder for High Treason.

And the following lease shows how the wood was managed in Elizabeth’s reign. Apparently the undergrowth was cut periodically by the tenants, while the large trees were reserved to the Crown. These were called “Stadells” or “Staddles,” or as we should call them “Standards,” and the wood was apparently managed on the same plan as the Herefordshire coppice woods—Ladylift, &c.—are to-day. Richard Price, Gent., was probably the Richard Price, of the Priory, who managed to get hold of nearly everything good that was going at Brecon in those days.

BENNY WOOD.

LETTERS PATENT TO RICHARD PRICE, GENT.

[Land Revenue Office, South Wales Enrolments. Vol. III., fo. 146, Co. Brecon.]

[Translation.]

Elizabeth, &c., greeting. Whereas We, by Letters Patent, dated at Westminster, 10th July, in the 18th year of Our reign [1576], granted to Jevan ap Morgan, William Meredd, Watkin Howell, John David, Llewenn Howell, Thomas DD, William Dd, and David ap Jevan, all that Our wood and underwood called Benny Wood alias the wood of Benny with all the appurtenances in co. Brecon, containing about 100 acres, and all the woods, underwoods and woodlands of the said Benny Wood yearly and from time to time in any way belonging, parcel of the lands and possessions of the late Duke of Buckingham attainted of high treason, except, nevertheless, and always reserving to Us and Our heirs all great trees being timber, and all sapling oaks fit for timber, also sufficient les Stadells in each acre of the premises according to the Statute in such case lately published for such kind of wood; to hold for 21 years, paying therefore yearly to Us and Our heirs 38s. 4d.: Which said Letters Patent the said William Meredd and others abovenamed surrendered into Our Exchequer as by deed dated 25th May in the 26th year of Our reign [1584] appears, with this condition that We should think fit to grant other Letters Patent of the premises to Richard Price, gent., for 21 years, which said surrender We hereby accept.

Know ye, therefore, that We, in consideration thereof, by the advice of William Baron, of Burghley, Our Treasurer, and Walter Mildmay, Knt., Chancellor of Our Exchequer, have granted, and to farm demised to the said Richard Price, the said Benny Wood, except as before excepted, to hold for 21 years, paying therefore yearly to Us and Our heirs 38s. 4d. And the said Richard Price shall only cut the said wood twice, and then only at fit and suitable times; and shall enclose the said wood well and sufficiently with hedges and ditches; and shall keep the said wood free from damage by not putting any horses or animals in the same; and shall deliver up yearly sufficient les Staddles in each acre of the premises.

Provided always that if the said rent should at any time be in arrear for 40 days, that then this demise and grant to be void.

Given at Westminster, 16th October, 26 Eliz. [1584.]

Manor or Lordship of Brecknock.

SALE OF FEE FARM RENTS BY THE CROWN TO JOHN MORGAN OF TREDEGAR, ESQUIRE, 1787.

Land Revenue Record Office Copy.

Among the Inrolments in the custody of the Keeper of His Majesty's Land Revenue Records and Enrolments in book intituled "Purchase Deeds and Fee Farm Rents sold, 1786 to 1831, Vol. IV.," is the following :—

No. 440 G. R. By the Commissioners of the Land Revenue.

BRECON.

These are to certify that the said Commissioners have contracted and agreed with John Morgan, of Tredegar, in the County of Monmouth, Esquire, for the sale to him of All those six several rents or payments due and payable to His Majesty by the said John Morgan and lately payable by Charles Morgan, Esq., deceased, that is to say, One yearly rent of Forty-four pounds and one penny half penny for or in respect of the Manor or Lordship of Brecknock with the foreign Bailiwick there with the rights, members, and appurtenances thereof in the County of Brecknock; One other rent or payment of Fifty-six pounds sixteen shillings commonly called a Comortha payable every second year for or in respect of the Manor or Lordship of Brecknock aforesaid; One other yearly rent of Twenty pounds nine shillings and tenpence for or in respect of certain demesne lands lying and being in Llanvaes and elsewhere, parcel of the Lordship of Brecknock aforesaid; One other yearly rent of Eleven pounds sixteen shillings and eight pence for or in respect of the Rectory of Brecknock with the appurtenances thereof in the County aforesaid; One other yearly rent of Six pounds for or in respect of a certain Mill called Honddy Mill in the County aforesaid; And one other yearly rent of Two pounds six shillings and eight pence for or in respect of certain fines due or payable for exemption from performing suit at the Court of Bail y Glaes within the Manor or Lordship of Brecknock aforesaid with the appurtenances thereof at or for the price or sum of Two thousand seven hundred and twenty-one pounds and nine shillings of lawful money of Great Britain to be paid by the said John Morgan into the Bank of England in the name of the said Commissioners Which said rent from and immediately after the payment of the said sum in manner aforesaid and the Inrollment of this Certificate with the receipt for the said purchase money in the Office of the Auditor of the Land Revenue for the County aforesaid shall be adjudged, deemed, and taken to be absolutely vested in the said Purchaser, his heirs, and assigns for ever by virtue of an Act passed in the twenty-sixth year of the reign of His present Majesty King George the Third, intituled "An Act for appointing Commissioners to enquire into the state and condition of the Woods, Forests, and Land Revenues belonging to the Crown and to sell or alienate Fee Farm and other unimprovable rents."

Given under the hands of the said Commissioners the twenty-eighth day of June, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven.

Witness to the signing by }
the said Commissioners. } J. FORDYCE, Sec.

CHARLES MIDDLETON
JOHN CALL
ARTHUR HOLDSWORTH.

Received the 3 day of July, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven of and from the above named John Morgan the sum of Two thousand seven hundred and twenty-one pounds nine shillings lawful money of Great Britain being the consideration money expressed in the above Certificate.

Witness my hand, For the Governor and Company of the
Bank of England.

£2721 9s.

T. ORMES, Cashier.

A Threlkeld
Inr. £2 5s.

Inrolled the 8 day of July, 1707.

JOHN FENWICK,
Deputy Auditor.

Examined by me,
W. J. GREEN.

I certify the forgoing to be a true Copy from the said
Inrolments pursuant to the Act 15 and 16 Victoria, Cap. 62,
Sec. 8, having been examined as above.

10th May, 1902.

W. J. GREEN,
Assistant to the Keeper of the Records.

Halimot Manor of Brecon.

The Court of this Manor is still regularly held by the Steward, Mr. H. Edgar Thomas, on behalf of Lord Tredegar, at the Castle Hotel.

The form of opening the Court is as follows :

“ All manner of persons that do owe suit and service to this Court Leet and Court Baron of the Right Honourable Godfrey Charles Lord Tredegar, Baron Tredegar, now to be holden in and for the Manor of Brecon draw near and give your attendance.

The form of adjourning the Court is as follows :

“ All manner of persons that have made their appearance here this day may
from hence depart, and keep their day and hour again on a new summons.
God Save the King.”

The following form of surrender of land in Llanfaes by the Revd. Rich. Davies, Archdeacon of Brecon, into the hands of the Lord of the Manor on the sale to Mr. Llewelyn Jones in 1814 before Hugh Bold, Esq., Steward, is here given. It will be seen by the same deed Mr. Llewellyn Jones was admitted as tenant of the Manor, and thus the transfer of the land was legally completed and enrolled.

At the Court Baron of Sir Chas. Morgan, Baronet Lord of the Halimot Manor of Brecon aforesaid, holden at the Castle of Brecon within the said Manor on the
day of _____ in the fifty-fifth Year of the reign of Our
Sovereign Lord George the 3rd by the grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, King Defender of the faith, and in the year of our Lord, 1814. Before Hugh Bold, Esq., Steward of the said Manor, and in the presence of
two customary tenants of the said Manor.

At this Court came the Revd. Richd. Davies, of the Town of Brecon in the County of Brecon, A.M., Archdeacon of Brecon and Canon of St. David's, only son and Heir at law of the Rev. Rich. Davies devisee named in the last Will and Testament, and also late of the sd. Town of Brecon, clerk decd. customary tenant in his own proper person and for and consideration of the Sum of £ _____ of good and lawful money of Great Britain in hand well and truly paid by Llewellyn Jones of the parish of St. David's in the said County of Brecon Victualler, the receipt whereof the said Richard Davies (party

hereto) doth hereby acknowledge, and of and from the same, every part thereof doth acquit, release and hereby discharge the said Llewellyn Jones, his heirs, exors, administrators, and assigns, by these Presents, and surrendered into the hands of the Lord of the said Manor by the hands of his Steward aforesaid by the verge according to the custom of the said Manor. All that close or parcel of land with the appurts. called Wainwach lying near Clawdd Mawr contg. by estimon one acre (more or less) with ye appurts., and which said close or parcel of land is situate and lying within the parish of St. David's aforesaid, and within the said Manor heretofore in the possession of Elizabeth Jones, Widow, her undertnt or aforesaid, and now or late in the occupation of Davd. Williams, Gent. To the use and behoof of such person and persons and to and for such estate and Estates use and uses Trusts, interests and purposes, and in such manner as the said Llewellyn Jones in and by his last Will and Testament in writing, or any writing in the nature of and purporting to be his last Will and Testament or any codicil or codicils thereto shall from time to time give, devise, direct, limit, or appoint the said close or parcel of land and for want of such Gift Devise Diron, Limiton or Appointmt. and so far as no such Gift, Devise Diron, Limiton or appointment shall extend to the use and behoof of the said Llewellyn Jones and his customary heirs and aforesaid for ever at the Will of the Lord according to the custom of the said Manor. And the said Llewellyn Jones present here in Court desires to be admitted Tenant of the premises aforesaid with the appurtenances according to the manner and effect of the said Surrender to whom the said Lord by the hands of his Steward aforesaid hath granted and delivered seizin of the aforesaid premises with their appurts. by the verge according to the custom of the said Manor. To have and to hold all and singular the said close piece or parcel of land with the appurts. to the use and behoof of such person and persons and to and for such estate and estates use and uses, trusts, interests and purposes, and in such manner as the said Llewellyn Jones in and by his last Will and Testament in writing or any writing in the nature and purporting to be his last Will and Testament or any codicil or codicils thereto shall from time to time give, devise, direct, limit or appoint the said premises, and for want of such gift, devise Diron, Limiton or appointmt. and so far as no such Gift, devise, Diron, Limiton or appointmt. shall extend to the use and behoof of the said Llewellyn Jones his customary heirs and aforesaid for ever at the will of the Lord according to the custom of the said Manor. Yielding and performing the Rents and Services thereupon due and of right accustomed, And the said Llewellyn Jones paid to the Lord of the said Manor One Shilling for his admission and performed his fealty by the verge according to the custom of the said Manor and thereupon he is admitted Tenant of the said premises.

NOTE.—Hallmote or Halimote (Sax. Heall i.e. Aula and Gemote, Conventus) was that Court among the Saxons which we call a Court Baron ; and the etymology is from the Meetings of one Hall or Manor. The name is still kept up in several places in Herefordshire, and in the Records of Hereford this Court is entered as follows, viz. : Hereford Palatium, ad Halimot ibidem tent : 11 die Octob, Anno regni regis Henry 6 &c. It hath sometimes been taken for a Convention of Citizens in their Public Hall, where they held their Courts, which was also called Folkmote and Halmote. But the word Halimote is rather the Lord's Court held within the Manor, in which the differences between the tenants were determined, *Omnis causa termineter vel Hundredo, vel comitatu, vel Halmote socam habentium, vel dominorum curia.* Leg. Henry I. cap. 10 Jacob's Law Dict. 1756.

Halymote, alias Haelyemot, is a Court Baron. Manwood parte prima of his Forest Law p. 111, and the etymologie is the meeting of the Tenants of one Hall or Mannor. M. Gwyn's Preface to his Reading. Cowell's Interpreter—1637.

Quarrying Stones on Common Lands in Breconshire.

It may reasonably be assumed, that in the olden time, when the tenants of a manor first built their homesteads, they quarried the stone on the waste land for the purpose, wherever it was convenient to do so, without asking leave from the Lord of the Manor. Similarly in forming the high and massive hill fences, where a certain thickness of quarried stone was placed as the base of the bank, the tenants availed themselves of the nearest quarry. In some instances dry stone walls were built along the hill sides of their coedcaeas. And of course in succeeding years, when repairs were necessary to either buildings and their roofs, or to the hill fences, the same free use of the available stone on the adjacent waste lands continued. Thus a general prescriptive right to the use of such stone by the tenants of a manor grew up, and which was beneficial alike to lord and tenant.

Certain quarries, however, of tilestones and paving stones in more modern times came into special favour round the country side, and to these many persons outside the parish and manor began to send for a supply. Hence it was necessary to place the quarries under some controul; and usually a professional quarryman became the tenant under the Lord of the Manor, charging the public so much for the stone, and paying a small royalty on the stone raised, or a small annual rent to the lord for the privilege. Skilled quarrymen were in esteem in those times, and up to a hundred years ago tilestones were the only available roofing material in our county.

Hence the old custom of tenants of a manor opening quarries for themselves gradually fell into disuse, and it is I believe the rule now on most manors to obtain the consent of the agent to the Lord of the Manor when quarrying stone for building purposes on the common lands. I think so far as repairing the hill fences and walls the old custom would still stand good, and any stones near, either in a quarry or lying loose, can be used for such a purpose without asking any leave. It is undoubtedly a very old custom, it is a necessary one, and has also in many cases modern user. Where such a custom does exist, it should be, like those of cutting fern, rushes, gorse, peat, hedgebote, etc., exercised from time to time, so as to keep the right good against the Lord of the Manor. Otherwise, as experience has amply proved, a Lord of the Manor comes on the scene some day, and squeezes one by one these ancient customs out of existence.

When the Great Forest of Brecknock was enclosed in 1815-19, two quarries of building stone—in addition to the limestone quarries, were set apart for the use of the allotment holders, and as far as can be ascertained from old records, the commoners had previously the free use of both building stone and limestone on the Forest; and neither the Crown or their agisters claimed building stone and limestone as minerals, or that any payment or royalty was due in respect of the use of the same.

Other old records of Dinas Forest, of the Crickhowell and Tretower Manors, and of Welsh Penkelly Manor do not show, I believe, any payments for quarrying the native stone of the county.

The following is an interesting case of a serious dispute between the Lord of the Manor of Brecon and the people of the district as to the quarrying of stone in the parish of Llanspyddid. It occurred in 1735. Some persons, being as they said tenants of the Brecon Manor, claimed the free right to quarry tilestone on Penygast (Pen y Gaer) hill in that parish, and assembled themselves in force to exercise the right, and to resist any interference that might possibly be contemplated by the Lord of the Manor and his steward and agents. Their claim was that of a general Prescriptive right in respect of their lands being within the manor to quarry stones on any part of the waste lands of the manor, and some of those present came from the parishes of Trallong and Devynnock, as well as from Llanspyddid. They succeeded in quarrying and carrying away 500 tilestones of the value of five shillings, but on the morrow were proceeded against by William

Morgan, Esquire, the Lord of the Manor. Such proceeding, however, did not take the form of a civil suit to test the right set up, but the illegality of the act was assumed, and the very strong measure taken of indicting the whole party straight off at the Great Sessions of the County for a Riot.

It will be seen that the Commoners took the opinion of Mr. Denison on the case, which was to the effect that the question of the act being a Riot or not, depended upon the lawfulness or otherwise of the act done.

What was the final issue of the case, I have at present no information, but from the nature of it, the position of the prosecutor and defendants respectively, and even of the witnesses, the proceedings must have excited the greatest interest throughout the County. I hope in some way the question of prescriptive right claimed was fairly tried out, whether the tenants of the Manor won or lost,—otherwise they may have been convicted of a Riot, when in fact what they had done might have been a lawful act, no Riot in a legal sense having ever occurred !

BRECON, TO WITT.

The Jurors for our Sovereign Lord the King upon their Oaths Present that Rees Morgan, late of the Parish of Llywell, in the said County of Brecon, labourer, Wm. Price, late of the Parish of Llanspithitt, in the same County, labourer, John Hugh, late of the Parish of Devynock, in the said County, tyler, Thomas Griffiths, late of the Parish of Llanspithitt, in the said County, labourer, David Lewis, late of the said Parish of Llanspithitt, in the said County, labourer, Roger Wm. Rees, late of the said Parish of Llanspithitt, in the said County, labourer, Thomas William, of the Parish of Trallong, in the said County, tyler, and William Evan, late of the said Parish of Devynock, in the said County, tyler, the fourteenth day of July, in the Ninth year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Second now King of Great Brittain and so forth with force and Arms (to witt) with Pickaxes, Shovels, Iron Barrs, and other weapons and Arms as Rioters, Routers, and Disturbers of the Peace of the said Lord the King to disturb the Peace of our said Lord the King Riotously, Routously, and unlawfully did Assemble themselves together att the said Parish of Llanspithitt, in the said County, upon the Waste Ground and Common of Pasture of William Morgan, Esq., Lord of the Manor of Brecon at a Certain Place there called Pen y Gart, within the said Manor and Parish, and then and there being so assembled together among themselves the Soyl and Ground of the said William Morgan did then and there with the force and Arms aforesaid did Riotously and tumultuously break open and dig up and Five Hundred Tylestones of the said William Morgan of the Value of five shillings then and there did dig up, raise, and carry away and other wrongs and injuries to the said William Morgan then and there did to the Great Damage of the said William Morgan and against the Peace of our said Lord the King, his Crown, and Dignity.

Prosecutor, WILLIAM MORGAN, Esq.

Witnesses, JOHN BULLOCK, Gentl.

RICHARD WILLIAMS, Clerk.

The above is an Indictment found att the last Great Sessions held for the County of Brecon against the several Persons above for Digging Tylestones on Part of the Waste of the Manor of Brecon. The Tenants within the said Manor claim a Prescriptive Right for the raising of all sorts of stones there for use of their lands within the said Manor, and the Persons above were employed by some of them to Raise the said Tylestones for their use. This Right, therefore, would be more Properly Tried by an Action.

Your are Desired to Give your opinion, whether it can be Quashed, and if it can, that you would Write Down your Exceptions.

“The Court of Kings Bench never will quash an Indictmen for a Riot Nuisance or such like offence, but if there is a material fault in such Indictment the party will be put to Demurr. As to this Indictment, I do not observe any error in it. It is a matter of

Right and properly triable in action. The Act must be unlawful to make a Riot, but whether unlawful or not in this case ought not I think to be tried on an Indictment for a Riot.

THO. DENISON,
Lincoln's Inn, 23rd December, 1735."

[Endorsed.]—Mr. Denison's Opinion upon Indictment for Digging Stones on the Forrest of Brecon.

Manor or District of Troescoed.

Nearly at the very southern end of the Parish of Ystradfellte is a little peninsula of land between the junction of the Nedd and the Melte rivers. It is known as Troescoed, and has been for hundreds of years considered to be outside the ambit of the Great Forest of Brecknock. Why it was made a little kingdom of itself, a second Monaco, is lost in obscurity!

The following grant of the land by Queen Elizabeth in 1578 to John Ffarnham, Esquire, one of her Majesty's gentlemen pensioners, and Hugh George, of London, gent., and the regrant by them to David Williams, of the Middle Temple, Esquire, and Llewellyn ap Gilm. and Richard Price, then of Ystradfellte, in 1588, are interesting, and may throw some light on the history of this outlying corner of our County.

It was part of the possessions of Edward Duke of Buckingham before his attainder, and I am under the impression formed a Manor of itself. At present I am, however, unable to give any further particulars.

TROESCOED.—COM. BRECKNOCK.

DEMISE TO JOHN FARNEHAM.

(South Wales Enrolments, Vol. III., p. 154.)

This indenture made the 27th day of November in the 23rd yere of the reigne of our Sovereigne Ladie Eliz. &c. Betwene John ffarnham, esquier, one of the gentlemen Pensioners of our said Sovereign Ladie the Quenes Majesty, and Hugh George of London, gent., one the one partie, and David Williams of the Middle Temple of London, esquier, Llewellyn ap Gilm, and Richard Price of Estradvelltey, in the Countie of Brecknock, gent., one the other partie. Whereas the Quenes Majestie by her highness letters pattentes under the greate seale of England beringe date at Ipswich the seconde daie of September in the 20th yere of Her Majesties raigne for divers good and resonable consideracions Her Majestie moving and of her speciall grace certaine knowledge and mere motion, Hath given and graunted unto the said John Farneham all that parcell of lande called y Troesgoed with the appurtenances lienge and beinge in the Parishes of Ystradvelltey, in the said Countie of Brecknock, containinge in lenth from a certain tree called Rywypienkm to a bridge called Arneth, And in breadth from a river called Melte unto an other river called Nethe, containing by estimacion 10 acres of lande, tenne acres of meadowe and 30 acres of heath and moore, be it more or lesse, with the appurtenances, sometime parcell of the possessions of Edward late Duke of Buck., of highe treason attainted, and occupied and used by Jenkin Thomas and others unknowen by 30 years now last past. And all manner of woodes, underwoods, and trees whatsoever groinge and beinge of, in, and upon the premisses or anie parcell thereof, and the ground or soile of the same woodes, underwoodes, and trees, and the revercion and revercions of all and singuler the premisses and everie parcell thereof and the rents, averrages of rents, services, revenues, condicions, forfaictures, comodities, emolumentes, and yerelie profittes whatsoever reserved upon anie demises or grauntes made of the premisses or anie parcell thereof. To be had, holden, and enjoyed unto the

said John Farneham, his heires, and assigns to the onlie use and behalfe of the said John Farneham, his heires, and assigns for ever, and to be holden of our said Sovereigne Ladie the Queene, her heires and successors, as of her manner of Estgrewich, in the Countie of Kent, by fealtie only in free and common socage and not in Cheif nor in Knightes service. And gelding and paieng yerelie to our said Sovereigne Ladie her heires and successors for the said parcell of lande the somme of 18s. 4d. of good and lawfull money of England at the times and feastes in the said letters patentes contained with divers other covenantes, grauntes, articles, and agrementes in the said letters patentes expressed as more at large by the said letters patentes doth and maie appeare.

The interest of which indenture David Williams Llm ap gllm, and Richard Price now have and enjoy by the grant of the said John Farneham.

Note that upon the "Ingosement" there be written Provided always that if the said land be not concealed (concellat) that then this grant shall be void.

Gabriel Powel (of Pennant), 1700-35.

"On a marble monument attached to the same wall (north, in the Priory Church) the inscription, nearly obliterated, and not legible without close inspection and considerable trouble:—

"Here lieth the body of Gabriel Powel of Pennant, in this borough, gent., several years Steward under two successive Dukes of Beaufort, of the lordship royal of Gower, in the County of Glamorgan, some time bailiff of this Corporation, and a strenuous asserter of the rights of inhabiting burgesses against foreigners, who died 5th November, 1735; aged 60."—Jones's History of Breconshire, Vol. II., p. 61.

This Gabriel Powel, the first of the family bearing that Christian name, was the son of William Powel of Brecon, tucker, and his wife Jennet, daughter of John Thomas Lewis. I cannot trace the line clearly down, but John Powel, Rector of Cantref in 1601, and Hugh Powel, who held considerable property in that parish in 1635, appear to have been his ancestors. Gabriel was brought up as a solicitor, and settling in Swansea, became Steward of the manor and estates of the Duke of Beaufort. He was also Steward of the manor and estate of Lord Arthur Somerset, who then held the Beaufort Breconshire property, in the Hundred of Crickhowell (page ante 127). In these appointments he succeeded the Harcourt family, members of which for several generations had been stewards of the Beaufort estates.

Existing records show that this Gabriel Powel was a man of considerable ability, and had great influence both at Swansea and in Breconshire. He amassed a good deal of property, chiefly at Swansea, and married as his first wife Joan, daughter of Owen Rogers, and secondly Mary, daughter of Lodovick Lewis, of Pennant, near Brecon. This latter marriage no doubt gave him an immediate interest in the Borough of Brecon, and he soon became a Member of the Council, and subsequently the bailiff. From what motive he acted we do not know—it may have been that he wished to increase the Beaufort interest in the County as against that of the other leading house, the Morgan family, or simply that he considered the Council had lapsed into a bad habit in filling up vacancies, and as a reformer, thought it should be put a stop to. It is stated on the inscription quoted that he strenuously asserted the rights of inhabiting burgesses against foreigners. And as foreigners he classed all those outside the limits of the Borough, or at least at any considerable distance from it. Apparently he instituted several suits in the Courts of law for this purpose, including the Castle Madoc and Buckland cases. See Jones' Hist., Vol. II. p. 24.

The following paper gives some interesting particulars of the doings of the Brecon Council when the reform agitation was in its first stage.

OLD MINUTES OF BRECON CORPORATION.

[Copy and Translation.]

THE BOROUGH OF BRECON.—At the Guildhall of the said borough on Thursday, to wit, the 7th day of May Anno Domini 1696 before William Herbert, Esq., bailiff of the said borough, John Price and John Jeffrey, gentlemen, and others of the Common Council in camera.

Ordered that Gabriel Powell, son of William Powell, Tinker (tucker), be sworn and admitted Burgesse of this Corporation. By CAMAR, JAMES.

BOROUGH OF BRECON.—At the Guildhall of the said borough on the 11th day of May A.D. 1696, before William Herbert, Esq., bailiff, John Price and John Jeffreys, gentlemen, Aldermen of the said borough by the order of the Common Council, &c.

THE STAMP PAPER IS FILED.—Gabriel Powell son of William Powell of the town of Brecon, tucker, came in his proper person and humbly prayed to be admitted burges of the said borough and is admitted and did fealty therefore according to the custom of the said borough, &c.

The same day before the same.

KING'S DUTY PAYD AS ABOVE.—The same Gabriel Powell was admitted and sworn one of the Attorneys of the court of the said borough.

JAMES, COMMON CLERK.

BOROUGH OF BRECON.—At the Guildhall of the said borough on Monday next before the feast of St. Michael the Archangel, to wit, the 28th day of September in the 8th year of the reign of our Lord William the 3rd now King of England, A.D., 1696, before William Herbert, Esq., bailiff of the said borough, John Price and John Jeffreys, gentlemen, Aldermen of the said borough and others of the Common Council of the said borough, &c.

William Watkin, glover, and
Gabriel Powell, gent.

} were elected to the office of the
said borough by

Lod Lewis	Wm. Herbert
Wm. Phillips	Tho. Walker
Wm. Wynter	Jo. Price, Alderman
Wm. Awbrey	Dan. Williams
Sam Saunders	Jo. Walters
	Rob. Lucy.

BOROUGH OF BRECON.—At the Guildhall of the said borough on Monday the 25th day of September A.D. 1704, before Lewis Lewis, Esq., bailiff of the said borough, Thomas Walker, Esq., Recorder, John Walters, Esq., and John Jeffreys, gent., Alderman of the said borough and others of the Common Council whose names are underwritten in camera, &c.

Whereas it hath pleased Almighty God to take out of this Mortal Life William Awbrey, Gent., late one of ye Common Counsell of this Burrough whereby there is a vacancy of a Common Counsell man's place within ye said Burrough We therefore ye persons whose names are hereunder written being Common Counsell men of ye same Burrough Judgeing it necessary to have ye said vacancy supplied by a fitt and able person to serve ye said office. I [sic] have Nominated and Elected and Do hereby Nominate and Elect Jenkin Price, Gent., only Son of Jno. Price, of this Town, Gent., to be one of ye Common Counsell men or Capital Burgesses of this Burrough in ye Room and Stead of ye said Mr. Awbrey, he the said Jenkin Price taking ye Oath now appointed

by Law in such Case. And we Do also hereby order that ye said Mr. Jenkin Price be admitted and Sworn a Burgess of this Corporation.

Jno. Morgan	Lod. Lewis, Bal.
Dan. Williams	Thos. Walker, Rec.
Wm. Philips	Jno. Walters, Ald.
Rob. Lucy	Jo. Jeffreys, Ald.
Will. Wynter	How. Jones
Rich. Hughes	Jo. Price
	Dan. Wynter.

BOROUGH OF BRECON.—At the Guildhall of the said borough the 28th day of September in the 6th year of the reign of the King that now is before the said bailiff, Recorder, Alderman and others of the said Common Council whose names are underwritten in Camera, &c.

Eforasmuch as it hath pleased Almighty God to take out of this troublesome World Jno. Price, Esq., Late one of ye Common Counsell or Capital Burgesses of this Burrough by whose Death there is a vacancy in the said Common Counsell, We therefore, the persons whose names are hereunto subscribed, being members of ye said Common Counsell, Judgeing it necessary that ye said Vacancy be filled up and Supplied by a fitt and able Person to Serve therein, I have Nominated and Elected and Do hereby Nominate and Elect Thomas Jones of this Burrough In ye place, Room, and Stead of ye said Jno. Price, he ye said Mr. Jones Qualifying himselfe thereto According to Law, whereupon ye said Mr. Jones being Called Into ye Chamber Did take ye Oaths now appointed for Qualifying him for ye said Office and was Accordingly Sworn one of ye Common Counsell of this Corporation.

Henry Thomas	Mered. James, Bal.
Hen. Williams	Wm. Philips, Record.
Dan. Wynter, Jun.	J. Price, Ald.
	Roger Jones
	Rich. Hughes
	Hugh Powell
	Lod. Lewis
	Dan. Wynter.

BOROUGH OF BRECON.—At the Guildhall of the same borough on Monday the 27th day of May, A.D. 1723, before Charles Hughes, Esq., bailiff of the said borough, Jenkin Price, Esq., Recorder of the said borough, Meredith James, Gent., and Thomas Jones, Gent., Alderman of the said borough, and others of the Common Council of the said borough, whose names are underwritten in Camera, &c.

Ordered that Thos., Morgan, of ye Therw, in the County of Brecon, be admitted and sworn a Burgess of this Corporation.

Hugh Powell	Chas. Hughes, Bal.
Rich. Hughes	J. Price, Record
Mered. James, Ald.	Wm. Morgan
	Roger Jones
	Thos. Jones, Ald.

The same day and year before the said Councillors in Camera, &c.

Whereas Thos. Morgan, Esq., was During his Minority elected one of ye Capital Burgesses or Common Counsell of the said Burrough but hath since Disclaimed any right or title to ye said place or office by reason that such Election was made during his Minority by meanes whereof there is a vacancy in ye said Common Counsell, And whereas also ye said Mr. Thomas Morgan is now attained to his full Age of 21 yeares, We therefore ye persons whose names are hereunto Subscribed being Capital Burgesses or Common Counsell men of ye said Burrough, Judgeing it necessary that ye said Vacancy should be forthwith Supplied by a fitt and able person to serve therein have Nominated and Elected, And do hereby Nominate and Elect the said Thos. Morgan to

be a Common Counsell man of ye said Burrough to fill up and Supply the said Vacancy therein, he ye said Mr. Morgan Qualifying himselfe thereto According to Law.

	Chas. Hughes, Bal.
Hugh Powell	J. Price, Record
Richd. Hughes	Wm. Morgan
Mered. James, Ald.	Rog. Jones
	Thos. Jones, Ald.

BOROUGH OF BRECON.—At the Guildhall of the said borough on Monday, to wit, the 17th day of June, A.D. 1723, before Charles Hughes, Esq., bailiff of the said borough, Jenkin Price, Esq., Recorder, Meredith James, Gent., and Thomas Jones, Gent., Aldermen of the said Borough in open Court.

By Order of the Common Council in Camera, &c.

At which time and place ye within named Thomas Morgan, Esq., being personally present was first sworn a Burgesse of ye said Burrough and having taken ye Oaths by Law appointed for qualifying himself to Serve ye said Office of Common Counsell man of ye said Burrough was afterwards Sworn a Common Counsell man of ye said Burrough.

Per Camara James.

BOROUGH OF BRECON.—At the Guildhall of the said borough on Monday, to wit, the 23rd day of September, A.D. 1723, before Charles Hughes, Esq., bailiff, Jenkin Price, Esq., Recorder, and Meredith James, Gent., one of the Aldermen of the said borough, and others of the Common Council, whose names are underwritten, in Camera, &c.

Whereas by an order bearing Date ye 27th Day of May, A.D. 1723, Thomas Morgan, Esq., was Nominated and Elected one of ye Common Council men or Capital Burgesses of this Burrough, and it since appearing unto this Chamber that ye said Election was Irregular, Wee therefore, ye persons whose names are hereunto Subscribed, being ye Major parte of ye Capital Burgesses of ye said Burrough for ye Reason aforesaid, Have removed and put out, and We Do hereby Remove and put out ye said Mr. Morgan from ye said place or office of Common Counsell man of ye said Burrough.

	Chas. Hughes, Bal.
Wm. Morgan	J. Price, Record
Mered. James	Wm. Morgan
Rich. Hughes	R. Jones
	Hugh Powell

The day and year within written before the same Councillors.

Whereas by ye order lastly mencioned it appeareth unto this Chamber that Thomas Morgan, Esq., was Irregularly Elected and Nominated into ye Place or Office of Common Counsell man of this Burrough by reason whereof he hath been removed and put out of ye said place of Common Counsell of this Burrough, Whereby there becomes a Vacancy in ye said Common Counsell of ye said Burrough, Wee therefore, ye persons whose names are subscribed, being ye major part of ye Common Counsell, Judgeing it necessary to make a speedy Election of a fitt and able person to supply ye said Vacancy, And we being satisfied of ye Loyalty, Integrity, and ability of ye said Mr. Morgan to Discharge ye said Place, Have re-elected, Nominated, and appointed, and we do hereby Re-elect, Nominate, and appoint ye said Mr. Thos. Morgan to be one of ye Common Counsell of ye said Burrough, he ye said Mr. Morgan takeing ye Oaths by Law appointed for Qualifying to serve in ye said office, and thereupon ye said Mr. Morgan being personally present in ye Chamber took ye said Oaths and was accordingly sworn one of ye Common Counsell or Capital Burgesses of ye said Burrough.

Hugh Powell	Chas. Hughes, Bal.
Wm. Morgan	J. Price, Record
Mered. James	William Morgan
Richard Hughes	R. Jones.

THE BOROUGH OF BRECON.—At the Guildhall of the said borough on Monday next before the feast of St. Michael the Archangel, to wit, the 27th day of September, A.D.

1725, before Richard Hughes, Esq., Bailiff of the said borough, Jenkin Price, Esq., Recorder, and Meredith James, gent., one of the Aldermen of the said borough, and others of the said Common Council, whose names are underwritten in Camera, &c.

Whereas by an order made ye 16th Day of Aprill, 1722, Charles Hughes, Gent., was Nominated and Elected one of ye Common Counsell or Capital Burgesses of this Burrough in ye Room and Stead of Henry Thomas, Gent., Deceased, And whereas since his said Election some Doubts have arisen touching ye Validity thereof and he haveing Surrendered his said office as appears by ye next preceding order of his Surrender, Wee therefore, ye persons whose names are hereunto Subscribed, being ye major part of ye Common Counsell of ye said Burrough, willing to remove such Doubts, Have Nominated and Elected, And we do hereby Nominate and Elect the said Mr. Charles Hughes into ye said place or office of Common Counsell or Capital Burgesse, he taking ye Oaths appointed by Law for qualifying him to serve in ye said place or office.

Hen. Williams	Richd. Hughes, Bal.
Mered. James	J. Price, Record.
Jno. Morgan	Thos. Morgan
Hugh Powell	Denry (?) Williams
Edw. Williams	Charles Penry
	Rice Edwards.

Whereupon ye said Mr. Hughes being personally present in ye Chamber took ye Oaths by Law appointed for qualifying him to serve in ye said Office and was afterwards Sworn a Common Counsell man of ye said Burrough.

Per Camer James.

[Small Document.]

BRECON—GABRIEL POWELL, GENT., v. THE BAILIFFS AND ALDERMEN OF THE
BOROUGH OF BRECON.

MICHAELMAS, 8 Geo. II., ROLL.

	£	s.	d.
Fee to Mr. Reeves for a motion for a writ of Mandamus.....	1	1	0
Paid for filing the affidavit on which it was granted	0	8	4
Paid for the fee of the Master for the Writ of Mandamus	0	6	8
Paid for stamp and Seal for the same	0	2	8

HILARY, 8 GEO. II.

Fee to Mr. Reeves for the motion to return the writ of Mandamus	1	1	0
Paid for the registering of the Court thereupon	0	8	0
Fee to Mr. Reeves for motion for filing the writ of Mandamus and return- ing the same	1	1	0
Paid for the registering of the Court thereupon	0	8	0
Paid to the Master for entering the writ of Mandamus and returning it ...	0	18	4

EASTER, 8 GEO. II.

Fee to Mr. Reeves for a motion for the Registrar of the Court for a book...	1	1	0
Paid for the Registering of the Court thereupon ..	0	4	0
Paid to the Master for entering the Traverse to the writ of mandamus and returning it	0	18	4
Postage with "breats" for Council's perusal	0	8	6
Fee to Mr. Reeves for reporting (?) thereon	1	1	0
Ditto to Mr. Fazakerly	1	1	0
Paid to their Clerks	0	5	0

Paid for stamp and seal and to the Master for 2 subpoenas	0	8	4
TRINITY, 8 & 4.			
Fee to Mr. Reeves for his opinion concerning Mr. Powell's having received the Sacrament	1	1	0
	<hr/> £10 12 9 <hr/>		

[Endorsed] Brecon,

MR. HEN. WILLIAMS AND MR. GAB. POWELL V. THE
BAILIFFS, ETC., OF BRECON.

The will of this Gabriel Powel is dated 1733. He left a son named Gabriel, of Swansea, who died 1788, and his grandson became Sir Gabriel Middleton Powel, also of Swansea. He died in 1813.

I may add that if pedigrees of this and other Breconshire families were brought down to date, it would much facilitate the study of our County history.

The annexed letter throws further light on the local affairs of this period :—

A Copy of the Letter sent to Mr. Morgan except that it was a little mended upon the second transcribing of it both in form, matter and substance.

Sir,

I doubt not but you have ere this heard of the Death of poor Mr. Cha. Hughes, by whose death we have lost not only a good Friend, but a Com. Councill man, whereby your interest in our Town may seem to be in danger of suffering more or lesse which however by good management may not only be prevented, but be improved and bettered ; and in order to explain how, I am to acquaint you that since the Death of Mr. Chs. Hughes, Mr. Pen Williams, Mr. Gab. Powell and myself have mett together more than once to consider of the present situation of affaires in our Town, the result whereof is that they have given me full power and Leave, or rather Orders, to acquaint you that they are under no Obligations by Mr. Jefferyes but are at perfect Liberty to chuse and espouse which side and party they please, and to assure you that in case you putt up Mr. Solicitor Generall or his son to stand for our Town at the next Election they will be for him with all their interest might and main, which being joyned to and with your own will undoubtedly carry it with a high Hand, and they are ready and willing [to enter] into any measures in concert with you for that purpose and as to the Ceremoniale for a meeting to be had on this occasion they desire nothing but just and proper applications to be made unto them either to be written or spoken and their friendship and interest desired, and Mr. Gab. Powell being now in Town is ready to give you and Mr. Talbot the Meeting at any time and place that you shall appoint to give you a full assurance and satisfaccion by word of mouth of the reality and sincerity of their intentions herein. If you please you may have Tydings of Mr. Gab. Powell at Daniels Coffee House by Temple Bar who stays in Town till the Middle of next . . .

The Gentlemen are both ready and willing to joyn with your interest [in Town] in opposition to the Jeffreys in all other matters particularly in filling the present vacancy in the Com. Councill, and you may be assured that when you meet together on that account the dispute will soon be ended to your satisfaction ; And upon this Head I am sorry to have occasion of giving you the account that Mr. Recorder has deserted us and is gone off to the other side so far as that he has promised his and his Nephew Dr. Morgans Vote for young Ned Williams (Mr. Harry Wms. his son) who is married to Mr. Ni. Jeffreys first cousin to come into the Councill in the room of Mr. Cha. Hughes, but if the Proposal and Project herein before mentioned be complied with and will take place, we shall never want Mr. Recorder's Vote nor Friendship for us, as will appere by the scheme underwritten.

You may also take notice that Mr. Richd. Hughes and myself are grown very old and

cannot live long, and when we dye, who will you have to support your interest in Town, no man I am sure of any great weight and interest whereas if we agree upon the project aforesaid Mr. Pen. Wms. and Mr. Gab. Powell (if of your side which you now have the offer of) will be able to do it effectually, they are material men and staunch Friends there they take. They may also one time or other do you and your Family great service as to your interest in the County, so that it is highly advisable to close with them. I had almost forgott to tell you that I believe Mr. Gab. Powell is to be our next Bayleffe, and in that case he will be able to doe materiall services for which Candidate he pleases at the Election. I am also to acquaint you that you can put up no other person as I beleive except Mr. Talbott to stand for our Towne with any sure hopes of successe.

I have nothing more to add but my request that this Affair be kept a great secrett, there is nobody at present knowes anything of it but Mr. Pen. Williams, Mr. Gab. Powell and myself, and the discovery of it will certainly be a great prejudice to the Affair in hand; and particularly to the private affaires of

Sir

Your most faithfull
Friend and humble
servant

MERED. JAMES.

The present state of affairs as to the vacancy in the Com. Councill stands thus viz.,
Votes.

For Mr. Morgan.
Tho. Morgan, Esqr.
Roger Jones, Esqr.
Ri. Hughes, Esqr.
Mr. Mered. James.
Mr. John Bullock.
Mr. Jo. Phillips.
Mr. Cha. Sandrys.

7

For Mr. Jeffreys.
* Pen. Williams, Esqr.
Wa. Jefferys, Esqr.
Mr. Hatton (?) Jones.
* Mr. Gab. Powell.
Mr. Edwd. Williams.
Mr. Recorder.
Dr. Morgan.

7

But there must be 8 Com. Councill men to make any Act.

Take off Mr. Pen. Williams and Mr. Gab. Powell from the Jeffreys' side and add them to Mr. Morgan's side then we shall be 9 and they but 5. and our 9 electing another Friend to supply the present vacancy will make 10—and what cannot 10 do?

Brecon, 22nd January, 1732.

For the Honble.

Thomas Morgan, Esqr., a
Member of Parliament
To be left at the Lobby of the
H. of Commons,

London
There

The following is a letter from Mr. Meredith James to Mr. Gabriel Powell, in London:—

Dear Sir,

This comes to give you the meeting at Daniel's Coffee House and to welcome you to Town, &c.

Since you went hence young Ned Williams came to me for my vote to bring him into the Councill in the room of Mr. Ch. Hughes and my answer was that I would make no

promises, but would consider of it ; next day afterwards my son went to the Recorder to sound him out and to recommend him to make no promises and he presently answered that he had promised both his own and his vote for Ned Williams, whereupon my son took the liberty to him for it and so went off. I knew his inclination was to Mr. Haton (?) Williams before some others, which you may remember I hinted to you before now ; and there is no more now to be said to it, but that he is a weak Brother, and if our Project takes (as I hope it will) we shall never want nor desire his vote nor friendship. He leaves the Judgeship and perhaps the Recordership too for your son ; many a true word is spoken in jest.

Mr. Morgan of Ruperra (?) is now in Town very busy, prosecuting his Grand Assize of the Auditorship wherein I hear he has Hopes of Success which I heartily wish.

I have by the post a long Letter a Copy whereof is hereinclosed that and be fully apprised of the whole the better enabled for your parte now may very probably happen that you may not hear anything from Mr. Morgan on this occasion whilst you are upp in Town by reason of your short stay there or rather of the urgency of Mr. Morgan's or Mr. Talbotts' affaires or other reasons, but lett not that discourage us. The thing may be as well transacted and done after you return home, and it will not then be too late, for persuaded I am the project will take in the end though we will give Mr. M. leave to be a little shy at first.

I am Sir
Yours most assuredly
MERED. JAMES.

Brecon 23rd January 1782.

[Addressed.]

For Mr. Gabriel Powell
Attorney at Law
To be left for him at
Daniel's Coffee House
by Temple Bar.

London
There

Blawd y Kwn or Dagges.

AN OLD PAYMENT.

All trace of payment of any such charge has long since been lost. Probably in very early times the lands were charged with the provision of meal for the hunting dogs used by the Lord of Brecon Castle.

[SOUTH WALES INROLMENTS, VOL. III. Fo. 170.]

COUNTY OF BRECKNOCK.

DEMISE TO JOHN LEWELL.

Elizabeth by the grace of God, &c. Know ye that We as well in consideration of the charges and expenses which John Lewell has sustained in recovering certain measures* of wheat levied yearly upon divers lands, tenements and mills lying at a certain place called Eskervaior for a certain custom called Blawde y Kwm which measures of wheat the

* modius, a measure generally, as bushel.

tenants of the said lands claim to have for a certain yearly rent to be paid for the same ; and also the said John Lewell offers to build a grain mill at his own charges within four years next following the date of these Letters Patent on the site of the decayed mill of Llanvaies, and also the decay of a certain tenement in Brentles as well as because the Vicar of Brentles claims the messuage and land in Brentles below in these presents demised, for his glebe : which claim was defended at the charge of the said John Lewell, have granted to him all that Our custom of divers measures of wheat within the Lordship of Brecknock called Blawd y Kwn or Dagges meate levied yearly upon divers lands, tenements, mills and hereditaments lying at a certain place called Eskervayor within the parish of Mertherkynock in Our said County of Brecon in the tenures of divers persons parcel of the possession of Edward late Duke of Buckingham ; also all the site and precinct of the late Mill of Llanvays called Llanvays Mill lying within the suburbs of the vill of Brecknocke at the place called Llanvays formerly in the tenure of Hoell ap Watkin and Lewis (Lodovici) ap John, formerly belonging to the said Priory of Brecon and being parcel of the possessions there ; and all that Our tenement lying within the vill of Brentles in the said county, now or late in the tenure of Charles Williams, formerly belonging to the late Priory of Clifford in co. Hereford ; and all that Our messuage, 1 garden and 1a. of meadow situate in the parish of Brentles in the said County now or late in the tenure of William Huyd, Vicar of Brentles, lately given or granted for celebrating masses in the parish of Brentles ; and all that Our rent of 2d. issuing out of certain lands and tenements in Llanvigan in the said County, now or late in the tenure of John Jenkins ; and one other rent of 2d. issuing out of certain lands and tents in Llanvigan, now or late in the tenure of William ap Jevan William, lately given and granted to pray in the pulpit in the Church of Llanvigan for the souls of the deceased ; and all the houses, buildings, barns, stables, dove-cotes, orchards, gardens, lands, meadows, commons, waters, pools, tolls, &c., &c., to the premises, in Llanvays and Brentles belonging. Except nevertheless and always reserving to Us Our heirs and successors all great trees, woods, underwoods, mines and quarries on the premises : To have and to hold all the said premises, except as above excepted, to the said John Lewell for the term of 21 years, paying to Us yearly for the said custom 20s., for the said site of the late mill of Llanvaies 7s. 6d., for the said tenement in Brentles late in the tenure of Charles Williams 20d., for the premises in Brentles late in the tenure of William Huyd, the Vicar there, 7d., and for the said rents issuing out of the premises in Llanvigan 4d.

And we exonerate the said John Lewell from paying the rent resolute of 3s. 4d. to the lord of the lordship of Cantracelli out of certain lands in Brentles during the said period.

And the said John within 4 years after the date of these Letters Patent shall at his own costs build a water grain mill on the site of the late mill of Llanvaies ; and shall also keep all the mills, houses, hedges, ditches, &c., &c., in good repair.

And the said John may from time to time take sufficient housebote, hedgebote, firebote, ploughbote and cartbote, to be used there and not elsewhere, during the said term, towards the repairs of the mills and houses.

Witness : William Baron de Burghley Our Treasurer of England at Westminster the 16th day of January in the 15th year of Our reign [1573].

Abercynrig Lordship and Estate.

This Lordship, Demesne Lands and Farms are stated by Theophilus Jones, under the head of Llanfrynach parish, to have been granted by Bernard Newmarch to his follower, Sir Reginald Aubrey, whose descendants held the property for many years. At page 22, ante, we have seen a copy of the Inquisitio post mortem of the then owner, Sir William Aubrey, D.C.L., in 1595 (38 Eliz.), and who appears to have possessed other important estates in the County. The Mansion House, said to have been built by the then Sir William Aubrey, forms the shape of a capital E (after the name of Queen Elizabeth), and being in a well-preserved condition to-day, with its moated pleasure ground, is most interesting.

In the early part of the seventeenth century (or shortly after this Sir William Aubrey's death), the estate was sold to John Jeffreys, of the Priory of Brecon, whose daughter and heiress, Dorothy, married Thomas Flower, the ancestor of the Viscount Ashbrook, of 1800, and brought the estate into that family.

In 1801, the estate was offered for sale, and Abercynrig Mansion itself and the chief lands near were purchased by John Lloyd, of Brecon, the East Indian captain, and in whose family (Lloyd's of Dinas) it is now vested. The other portions of the estate were sold to various persons, and I have thought it interesting to print here the full particulars of sale of the first portion of this large estate.

BRECKNOCKSHIRE.

PARTICULARS OF A FREEHOLD ESTATE SITUATE NEAR THE TOWN OF BRECON CONSISTING OF

The Manors or reputed Manors, of Abercundrigg and Battle, with the Royalties and Appurtenances thereto belonging; the capital Mansion and Estate of Abercundrigg Demesne, with the Farms of Velindre, Trevidew, Upper and Lower Penylans and Davoden Meadow thereto adjoining, with divers other Farms, Messuages, and Tenements, being let to Tenants at Will on easy Terms, and amounting in the whole to the Yearly Rent of Eight Hundred Pounds; together with the Perpetual Advowson of the Living of Aberysker, Which will be sold in the following Lots, by Private Contract :—

Lot I. — Consisting of Abercundrigg Demesne, with the Farms adjoining called Velindre, Trevidew, Upper and Lower Penylan, in the Parish of St. David's, and Penylan, in the Parish of Cantreff, together with Davoden's Meadow; being situate likewise in the several other parishes of Llanvrenach, St. John the Evangelist, and Llanhamlach, viz.,

Abercundrigg Demesne, in the Occupation of Mrs. Mary Morgan, consists of a large good Mansion House, with convenient Buildings, Stables, Two large Barns, Beast Houses, and Cart House; a large Farm Yard, a Garden walled in, Orchards, and about Three Hundred and Thirty-nine Acres of Arable, Meadow, Pasture and Woodland.

Rhyd y Maen is included in the same Bargain with Abercundrigg, and Mrs. Morgan's Bailiff lives in the House, being a neat little cottage. The land attached to it is Twenty Acres and Nine Perches.

Velindre Farm, also in the Occupation of Mrs. Mary Morgan, situate in the Parish of Llanvrenach, consists of a Farm House, Beast Houses, &c., and a Mill, which has been lately rebuilt on a large Scale at a very considerable Expence, and is capable of doing a great deal of Business; together with Two Cottages near the Mill occupied by Labourers. The Land belonging to this Farm is Thirty-five Acres, One Rood, Fifteen Perches,

Trevidew Farm, also in the Occupation of Mrs. Mary Morgan, consists of a small Farm House, a Beast House and Barn, and Fifty-one Acres, One Rood, and Ten Perches of Arable, Meadow, and Pasture Land.



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ABERCYNRIG MANSION HOUSE.
THE SEAT OF THE AUBREY FAMILY. BUILT 1560-1595.
EAST FRONT.



Penylan, in the Parish of Cantreff, in the Occupation of Mr. John Morgan, consisting of a small Farm House, Beast House and Barn, and Ninety-three Acres, Three Roods, and Thirty-seven Perches of Land.

Upper Penylan, in the Parish of St. David's, in the Occupation of Mrs. Mary Morgan; consisting of a small Farmhouse and Barn, and Sixty-eight Acres, One Rood, and Four Perches of Land.

Two farms, called Penylan and the Green, in the Parish of St. Davids, in the Occupation of Mr. John Morgan; consisting of a tidy Tenement and good Beast Houses, and One Hundred and Thirteen Acres and Nine Perches of Land. There is a considerable quantity of Oaks in the Woods of this Farm.

Davoden Meadow, in the Parish of St. David's, in the Occupation of Mr. John Morgan; consisting of a rich piece of Meadow Land adjoining the River Usk, containing Twenty-four Acres and Two Roods.

N.B.—The annual value of the several Farms in Lot 1 is Four Hundred and Thirty Pounds.

- Lot II.—Comprising a Farm, called Nant y Cegyryn, in the Parish of Llanspythitt, in the Occupation of Philip Phillips, being a compact Estate, situate about Two Miles from Brecon: consisting of a small Farm House, Beast House and Barn, and Thirty-one Acres and Three Roods of Land.

N.B.—The annual Value of this Lot is Thirteen Pounds Ten Shillings.

- Lot III.—Comprising the Manor and divers Farms and Tenements within the Parish of Battle, called Cae Crwn, Penrhw, and divers other Bargains, including the Quit Rents of the Manor, amounting to Four Pounds, Nine Shillings, and Nine Pence, Yearly.

Cae Crwn Farm, and other Lands in the Occupation of Eleanor Powell: consisting of a good Farm House, Wain House, Beast Houses, Barns, and Two Cottages, let to Labourers. The Land belonging to this Farm is One Hundred Acres, One Rood, and Thirty-three Perches.

Farm at Battle, in the Occupation of John Price; consisting of the Manor House, being a small Farm House, with a Beast House, and another Building standing on the Waste; and Eleven Acres, One Rood, and Eight Perches of Land.

Lands in Battle, in the Occupation of David Hughes, containing Twelve Acres, Two Roods, and Twenty-one Perches. There are no Buildings on this Farm.

A Bargain, called Part of the Old House and Cae Glass, in Battle, in the Occupation of John Price; containing Thirty-three Acres, Three Roods, and Five Perches. There are no Buildings on this Bargain.

A Croft, in Battle, let to John James; containing One Rood and Five Perches of Meadow Land.

A Cot and Lands, in Battle, in the Occupation of William Watkin. The Land, Three Acres, One Rood, Ten Perches, and a small Garden.

A Cot and Croft, in Battle, in the Occupation of Daniel Jones. The Land about Half an Acre.

Penrhw Tenement, in the Occupation of Widow Prees; consisting of a Cottage, and Ten Acres, Three Roods, and Three Perches of Land.

The annual Value of this Lot is Eighty-five Pounds.

- Lot IV.—Comprising a Farm, called Ynis Mock, in the Parish of Aberysher, in the Occupation of Howell Powell; consisting of a good Farm House, Stable, Beast House and Barn, and Eighty-four Acres and Three Perches of Land.

The annual Value of Lot IV. is Twenty-six Pounds Ten Shillings.

- Lot V.—Consisting of a Farm, called The Noyadd, with a Mill thereto belonging; a Tenement called Corof Gawci; one other Tenement called Llaner Chlas; one other called Pontvane; a Cot and Smith's Shop; and a Wood called Alt y Pont Vane; all situate in the Parish of Merthyr Cynnog, viz.,

The Noyadd, or Hall, in the Occupation of John Powell; comprising a large Farm House, Beast Houses, Out Houses, and a Barn. The Mill is situate at

Pontvane, and there is a small Cottage near to it usually occupied by the Miller. The Land attached to this Farm is One Hundred and Seventy-seven Acres, One Rood, and Thirty-four Perches.

Corof Gawci, in the Occupation of David Stephens; consisting of a Cottage and and Beast House, and Five Acres, Two Roods, and Thirteen Perches of Land.

Llanerchlas, near Pontvane, in the Occupation of Thomas Bevan; consisting of a Cottage and Croft, containing Two Roods and Ten Perches.

Pontvane, a Cottage, and Four Acres, Two Roods, and Ten Perches of Land; in the Occupation of Alice Moises.

A Cottage and Blacksmith's Shop at Pontvane, and a Garden containing Thirty-two Perches, in the Occupation of William Williams.

Alt y Pontvane Wood, in Hand, containing Thirty-five Acres, Two Roods, and Thirty Perches.

N.B.—A good Stock of Underwood and much Oak Timber. The Annual Value of this Lot is Sixty-seven Pounds.

Lot VI.—Comprising Lower, Middle and Upper Vale Farms; Penylan, Ponty Maes, and Havodvoririg, or Pantyr Eirin, Farms; all being situate in the Parish of Llandeavaylog, viz.,

Lower and Middle Vale Farms, in the Occupation of Thomas Watkins; consisting of Two Homestalls, with Beast Houses, Barns, and other Buildings; and One Hundred and Sixty-four Acres, Three Roods, and Thirty-two Perches of Land, part of which is Wood.

Upper Vale Farm, in the Occupation of Richard Pritchard, consisting of a Farm House, Beast House and Barn, and Sixty-six Acres, Two Roods, and Thirty-six Perches of Land.

Penylan, in the Parish of Llandeavaylog, occupied by Jenkin David; consisting of a Tenement or Farm House, Beast House and Barn, and Eighty-eight Acres and Thirty-seven Perches of Land.

Ponty Maes, in the Occupation of John Jones; consisting of a Farm House, Beast House and Barn, and One Hundred Acres of Land.

Havodvoririg, or Pantyr Eirin, in the Occupation of Joan Probart, Widow; consisting of a Tenement, Beast Houses and Barn, and Sixty Acres, One Rood, Four Perches of Land.

The Annual Value of Lot VI. is One hundred and thirty-five pounds ten shillings.

Lot VII.—Comprising an Estate situate on each side of the River Trevechan, in the Parishes of Llanveiglan and Llanvrenach, in the Occupation of Michael Thomas and his Undertenants; consisting of Three different Tenements, viz.,

Ustadd Gunwynn, or Lloyn Llyen, inhabited by the said Michael Thomas; consisting of a good comfortable Farm House, with Beast Houses, Barns, &c., and Seventy-five Acres, Two Roods, and Seventeen Perches of Land in Tillage; and Two Hundred and Twenty-two Acres, Three Roods, Nineteen Perches Sheepwalk.

Lloyn y Dderllyan, or Owls Bush, occupied by William John David as Undertenant; consisting of a Cottage and Beast House, and One Hundred and Nine Acres and Thirty-eight Perches of Land.

Lloynon, occupied by George Thomas as Undertenant; consisting of a Cottage and Range of Beast Houses, and Four Hundred and One Acres and Eight Perches of Land; of which Three Hundred and Seventy-Three Acres and Thirty-four Perches is Sheepwalk.

The Annual Value of this Lot is Sixty Pounds.

Lot VIII.—The next Presentation and Perpetual Advowson of the Rectory of Aberysker, of the Annual Value of nearly One Hundred Pounds; subject to Life of the present Incumbent, aged about Sixty.

A Plan of the Estate may be seen at Mr. Charles Deare's, No. 12, Harcourt Buildings, Temple, London, where further Particulars, Admeasurement, &c., of the several

Closes, may be known ; also of Mr. Davis, Lewknor, Oxfordshire ; and of Mr. John Morgan, Brecon, who will give Directions to the several Tenants to shew their respective Premises.

The second portion of the Estate was sold in 1802, and I give also the Particulars of that. Mr. Jeffreys Wilkins, of the Priory, bought several of the farms. It will be observed in these particulars, which are in the shape of a handbill, that all "the above farms have an unlimited right of Common for all manner of cattle on the adjacent Commons." This handbill was put in and accepted as evidence of the enjoyment of right of Common at the date named therein, viz., 1802, by Mr. Wood, at the recent Torglas arbitration in 1902. Such papers, it is needless to say, are always worth preserving among estate papers.

BRECONSHIRE.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION, AT THE BUSH INN, IN THE TOWN OF BRECON,

On Saturday, the 24th day of July next, between the Hours of Four and Six in the Afternoon, in One Lot, the Several Freehold Messuages Farms, Lands, and Premises, hereinafter mentioned, subject to such conditions as shall then be produced. And in case the said several Messuages and Premises should not be sold in One Lot, then the same will be immediately put up to Auction, subject also to such Conditions to be then produced, at the Time and Place abovementioned, in the following Lots :—

Lot I.—All that capital Mansion House, Messuage, Farm and Lands, with the Appurtenances, called Tregare, situate in the Parishes of Llanvrynach and Llanvigan, and a House, Garden and Orchard, in the Village of Llanvrynach, containing together by Estimation 367a. 2r. 21p., statute measure (be the same more or less), in the Occupation of the Representatives of Edward Morgan, deceased, and David Jones, under a Lease for 21 Years commencing from Michaelmas, 1796, at the clear Yearly Rent of £100.

Also, All that Messuage, Farm and Lands, with the Appurtenances, called Tir Hir, situate in the Parishes of Llanvrynach and Llanvigan, containing by estimation 64a. 2r. 16p. (be the same more or less), in the Occupation of the Representatives of the said Edward Morgan, deceased, and David Jones, and included in the above Lease, at the clear yearly Rent of £42 10s. 0d.

Lot II.—Also, All that Messuage, Farm and Lands, with the Appurtenances, called Cwm Orgwm, otherwise Coed y Bedw, situate in the Parish of Llanvrynach aforesaid, containing by Estimation 111a. 3r. 2p. (be the same more or less), in the Occupation of the Representatives of the said Edward Morgan and David Jones, also included in the aforesaid Lease, at the clear Yearly rental of £27 10s. 0d.

N.B.—There is a Rent Charge of £8 0s. 0d. annually issuing out of this Farm, and payable to the Poor of the Parish of Llanhamlach, which the Tenant pays, and and the Farm will be sold subject to such Rent charge.

Lot III.—Also, All those two Messuages, Farms and Lands, with their Appurtenances, called Panney and Pen y wain, containing together by Estimation 204a. 1r. 11p. (be the same more or less), in the Occupation of John Parry, under a Lease for 21 Years, which will expire at Michaelmas, 1809, at the clear yearly Rental of £63.

Also, All that Messuage and Lands called Cae Cradog, situate in the Parish of Llanvrynach aforesaid, containing by Estimation 9a. 0r. 31p. statute Measure (more or less) in the Occupation of Thomas Aubrey, as Tenant at Will, at the yearly Rental of £5 5s. 0d.

Lot IV.—Also, All that Messuage, Farm and Lands, called Tynllwyn, adjoining Panney Farm, situate in the Parish of Llanvrynach aforesaid, containing 115a. 3r. 22p.

statute Measure (be the same more or less) in the Occupation of Thomas Watkins and William James, under a Lease for 14 Years, commencing from Michaelmas, 1796, at the clear yearly Rental of £52 10s. 0d.

Lot V.—All that rough Piece or Parcel of pasture Ground, called Coed Cae Jonet, situate in the Parish of Llanvrynach aforesaid, containing 23 Acres, statute Measure (be the same more or less) now held by William Mosely, at the clear yearly Rent of £2 2s. 0d.

The above Farms have an unlimited Right of Common, for all Manner of Cattle on the adjacent Commons, and the several Houses and Out-houses have been lately put in complete Repair, at a very considerable Expence.

NOTE.—There is a considerable Quantity of Timber and young Trees growing upon this Estate, which will be sold with the same.

☞ The several Tenants will shew the different Farms, and Particulars apply to Mr. THOMAS BOLD, Attorney, Brecon, at whose Office date may be seen.

June 14th, 1802.

BRECKNOCK.

Appended are further handbills as to the sale of Rhue Farm in 1802, and the letting of the Abercynrig and Rhiwe farms in 1814, both described as possessing extensive rights of Common :—

BRECONSHIRE.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION, AT THE SUN INN, IN THE TOWN OF BRECON,

On Saturday, the 27th Day of November instant, at Three o'clock in the Afternoon, under Certain Conditions then to be Produced, or in the mean Time by Private Contract: All that Messuage, Tenement and Lands, with the Appurtenances, called the Rhue, containing by Estimation Seventy-Three Acres, Be the same, more or less; now in the Occupation of Morris Smith, as yearly Tenant, at the Rent of £33 per Annum, clear of Taxes. And also a Cottage and Garden, thereto Adjoining and Belonging, in the Occupation of Lewis Price, at the yearly Rent of £1 8s. With Another decayed Cottage, late in the occupation of Priscilla Lewis. All situate in the Parish of Llanvrynach in the said County. There is a fine Growth of Oak and Ash on the Premises, and the same have a valuable Right of Common on the healthy and extensive Hills adjoining.

☞ For Particulars, apply to Mr. John Parry, at Panney; or Messrs. Walter and John Powell, Attornies, Brecon.
November 1st, 1802.

BRECONSHIRE.

A MOST ELIGIBLE ESTATE TO BE LET.

To be Let for a Term of Years, and entered upon at Michaelmas next, All that Capital Messuage, Farm and Lands, called Abercynrig, with the Water Corn Grist Mill, thereunto belonging; containing by Admeasurement about 535 Acres, now in the occupation of Mr. Roger Prosser. Also, All that Stock Farm (held with Abercynrig) called Rhiwe containing by Estimation about Fifty Acres. The Mansion-house of Abercynrig is calculated for the Residence of a genteel Family; and the Offices, Feeding-houses, and other Farm Buildings are very commodious. A great Part of the Land lies on the Banks of the River Usk, and the whole of it is within the Distance of about Two Miles of the Town of Brecon, and about a Quarter of a Mile of the Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal.—Limestone in great Abundance upon the Farm, with a convenient Kiln; also an excellent Threshing Machine, worked by a full Supply of Water, which may afterwards irrigate a considerable Part of the Land; to which there is the Advantage

of an extensive Right of Common. Rhiwe Farm is situate in the Parish of Llanvrynach, within the Distance of about Two Miles of Abercynrig, and has also a valuable Right of Common attached to it. N.B.—The Statute Labour is very trifling.

For a View of the Premises, and for further Particulars, apply to the Proprietor, John Lloyd, Esq.; or to Messrs. Powell and Jones, Solicitors, Brecon.—(If by Letter, the Postage paid).

June 20, 1814.

The following is a valuation of the Abercynrig desmesne made for John Lloyd, my father, in 1819, shortly after he came into possession of the estate on his father's death. It was made by David Davies, the eminent land Surveyor, of Llangattock, Crickhowell. Mr. Archibald was then the tenant, and it was at his suggestion the attempt at great expense to convert the meadows into a kind of water meadows, by irrigation from the Cynrig brook was made. Though the system of irrigation was long maintained, and as late as 1860, it proved to be of little value, the quality of the water being deficient in the properties possessed by the streams flowing from the Chalk formation in England. My father covenanted to give Mr. Archibald £200 towards the expense of laying out—"floating" it was called—the meadows, but the work, which was thoroughly well done, must have cost Mr. Archibald a far larger sum. Previously the Brecon races were held on these beautiful meadows, the Grand Stand being fixed on the rising bank in Ynyspenybont, but the formation of the numerous gutters and deep trenches, and finally the making of the Dinas Gardens caused the Races to be removed to the Island fields near the Town, and on the Town side of the river Usk.

REFERENCES TO THE PLAN AND SURVEY OF THE ABERCUNDRIE DEMESNE NEAR THE TOWN OF BRECON, THE PROPERTY OF JOHN LLOYD, ESQ.—ARCHIBALD, GENT., TENANT.

No. on Plan.	Names of Pieces, &c.	State.	Clear Land.			Wood.			
			A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	
1.	Brin mawr	Ara.	..	21	0	30	..		in the Parish of Lanvrynach.
2.	Brinbach	Ara.	..	10	2	30	..		
3.	Cae Llwh	Ara.	..	11	1	18	..		
4.	Cae Crumlin	Ara.	..	2	1	30	..		
5.	Waunllwch	P.	..	8	1	25	0	1 15	
6.	Park gwin mawr	Ara.	..	18	2	5	..		
7.	Park gwin bach	Ara.	..	7	3	23	..		
8.	Ynis Gwilim	Ara.	..	5	3	13	1	3 32	
9.	Perllan fawr	P.	..	2	0	5	..		
10.	Part of Parkgwyn bach	P.	..	3	0	0	..		
11.	Cae Shone Richard	A.	..	9	2	26	..		
12.	Cae glase	A.	..	6	2	30	..		
13.	Cae barbwr	A.	..	1	2	12	..		
14.	Caepentre	A.	..	4	1	17	..		
14a.	Cae bach Velindre	P.	..	1	3	0	..		
15.	Pwll bach	P.	..	0	1	20	..		
16.	Island	P. & W.	..	1	0	17	0	0 6	
17.	.....	P.	..	0	2	15	..	
18.	Cottage and garden .....	.....	.....	0	0	12	..	
19.	.....	.....	.....	0	1	30	0	0 12
20.	.....	P.	..	0	0	35	..	
21.	.....	P.	..	0	2	27	..	
22.	Cottage Ruin, &c. ....	.....	.....	0	0	25	..	
23.	Two Cottages and garden .....	.....	.....	0	0	10	..	
24.	Perllan, Velindre	P.	..	0	2	17	..		
25.	Garden .....	.....	.....	0	0	35	..	
26.	Mill pond, Yard, &c. ....	.....	.....	0	1	35	..	
27.	Two Cottages and gardens .....	.....	.....	0	0	28	..	
28.	Cae Shone Walter	A.	..	15	1	21	..		
28a.	Part of do.	A.	..	5	1	31	..		

No. on Plan.	Names of Pieces &c.	State.	Clear Land			A. R. P. Wood.			
			A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	
29.	Trevedw House and Road		1	0	31	..			
30.	Close y Gyfer	A.	3	2	18	..			} St. Davids.
	Garden in do.		0	0	14	..			
	Wood in do.	W.	..	..	..	0	1	18	
31.	Gwynydd bach Trevedw	M.	14	1	21	..	0	3	34
32.	Cae Bruce	P.	14	1	0	..			} Lanvrynach.
	Pond in do. ....		..	..	..	0	1	15	
32a.	Part of Cae Bruce	P. & W.	..	..	..	0	1	10	} St. Davids.
32b.	Do. do.	P. & W.	..	..	..	0	1	0	
33.	Abercundrig House, Yards, &c... ..		4	0	20	..			} Lanvrynach.
34.	Perllan fach	P.O.	2	0	20	..			
35.	Roughet adjoining	P. & W.	..	..	..	1	1	25	} Lanvrynach.
36.	Do. Gravel, &c.	P. & W.	..	..	..	1	0	15	
37.	Close y Berth	M.	21	2	18	..			} Lanvrynach.
	Wood and pond in do.	W.	..	..	..	1	0	17	
38.	Ynis Cundrig	M.	9	1	28	..			} St. Davids.
38a.	Part of do.	M.	3	1	20	..			
39.	Ynispenybont	A.	18	0	10	..			} St. Davids.
40.	Ynis Shone Sanders	M.	17	0	2	..			
40a.	Part of do.	M.	5	0	20	..			} St. Johns.
41.	Ynis fallen	A.	15	1	24	..			
42.	Wood adjoining	W.	..	..	..	2	3	30	} St. Davids.
43.	Upper Meadow	M.	13	3	32	..			
43a.	Part of do.	M.	5	2	1	..			} St. Johns.
44.	Wayn fach Rhydymaen	M.	1	3	20	..			
45.	Caebach Rhydymaen	A.	4	3	15	..	2	3	30
46.	Waynfach	P.	0	1	35	..			} St. Davids.
			297	3	11	14	0	19	
			14	0	19				
Total			311	3	30				

DEAR SIR,—

I beg to send you the annexed copy of the Reference to the Plan and Survey of the Abercundrig desmesne.

I remain, Dear Sir,

Yours very faithfully,

DD. DAVIES,

Llangattock, Crickhowell.

December 8th, 1819.

Nonconformity in Breconshire, 1700 to 1800.

A previous paper—page 89, of the “Historical Memoranda”—gave the list, extracted from the Minutes of the Quarter Sessions of our county, of persons presented to the Court for not coming to Church for three successive Sundays in the year 1687. This was the last of such lists ever made. In the year following, 1688-9, the Toleration Act was passed, which provided that Protestant Dissenters should be exempt from the penalties previously in force, and be permitted to attend their own places of worship, if such had been duly certified to the Bishop, or Archdeacon, or to the General Sessions of the county, and by the same statute the Clerk of the Peace was required to keep a register of such places of worship, and to give a certificate to any person demanding the same on payment of a fee of sixpence.

Probably it was found extremely difficult for the Protestant Dissenters to find sites for, and to build their places of worship, or even to rent any suitable building, and it is even the case at the present day. Some landowners might be willing to grant or lease such sites or buildings, while others would not be, and beyond even this difficulty was the further one of being able almost at a moment's notice to extemporise funds for building the chapels. The work of covering a wide and sparsely inhabited district like Breconshire could only be done gradually, even under the most favourable circumstances.

Hence it may fairly be assumed that during the eighteenth century—1700 to 1800—the practice of holding prayer meetings, coupled with preaching in farm-houses and other uncertified buildings, was general, and the somewhat serious step of building a chapel would only be taken after a nucleus of worshippers in a certain district had been found to exist, and that could only be ascertained by the previous holding of many such private or clandestine prayer meetings.

Theo. Jones, our county historian, is strangely silent on the subject of Nonconformity in Breconshire, and it was left to Mr. Poole in his more modern work—and much credit is due to him—to describe, for the first time, the rise and progress of Nonconformity in our county. He writes at page 358 :

“The Toleration Act, 1689, was a great advance on previous ordinances. It did not, however, bring with it complete justice to the Nonconformists in Wales. The history of the Eighteenth Century in this county is one of cruel persecution on the one hand, and patient suffering and courageous adherence to principle on the other.”

And then Mr. Poole proceeds thus :

“The last legal persecution occurred at Brecknock in the year 1791, of which Dr. Rees gives the following account:—‘The Revd. Thomas Bowen, of Maesyronen, Radnorshire, who was a very popular and active preacher, used frequently to preach at dwelling houses in various districts of the counties of Radnor and Brecon. Among other places, he often preached at a farmhouse in Llansaintffraid, near Brecon. His repeated visits to this parish so irritated Parson Frew, that he determined to punish him as far as possible. Finding that the house in which Mr Bowen preached had not been recorded for preaching according to the provisions of the Toleration Act, and that consequently the preacher was liable to a penalty of twenty pounds, and that he as informer would be entitled to one-third of that sum, on his information, and at his request Mr Bowen was summoned to appear before the magistrates at Brecon. On the appointed day he appeared there. The presiding magistrate asked him, “Is it true that you preached in Mr. Frew's parish at the house named in the summons?” “It is,” was the reply. Then said his worship, “You are liable to a fine of twenty pounds and the costs.” Without cringing, pleading his poverty, or begging their favour, he paid the money, and gracefully bowing to their worships, he walked out of the room. A messenger was sent to the door, asking him to return, that the magistrates had something to say to him! When he returned, the Chairman said to him, “Mr Bowen, we have the power to fine you to this amount, but we have the power to reduce it to a nominal sum.” He replied, “Never mind, gentlemen, the money is now paid, and the portion of it which will go to the pocket of my accuser, may injure him more than the loss will injure me!” Six weeks after, Mr Frew, on his way home from Brecon, fell from his horse on a heap of stones, and his skull was so fractured that his brains

were scattered over the stones. The tragical end of this persecution so terrified his clerical brethren, that none of them afterwards ventured to annoy a Nonformist preacher as he did."

This story, as told by Dr. Rees, is in any case a very painful one. It is possible that Mr Frew laid the information because no one else could be found to do so, and not for the sake of getting a share of the fine himself. As to the date of the alleged fatal accident that befel Mr. Frew, it seems doubtful whether it happened so very soon after the hearing before the magistrates because I find that in the list of Incumbents at Llansaintffraed, it was not until 1794, or three years later that the Rev. Morgan Rowlands succeeded the Rev. John Frew.

I had written thus far, and was about to copy a letter of Mr. Frew himself, dated January 1st, 1792, relating to this very prosecution, and which then lay on the table before me, when there occurred a marvellous coincidence, amounting almost to a miracle. I was musing over the difference in date, and trying to find a solution, when to relieve the strain of mind, I began carelessly to turn over the pages of a quaint diary book published in Kent, which lay by my left elbow as a curio to be looked at when I had leisure.—Glancing over the leaves, I was first struck by the handwriting, which seemed familiar to me. Then various entries excited my attention, such as payment for powder and shot, won at cards £1 16s, lost at cards 5s, receipt of tithe from Talybryn, and of £20 tithe from Gwynne. Then on a flyleaf at the end, a copy of the inscription on the well-known stone of Victorinus. This seemed to point indubitably to Llansaintffraed parish! and lastly, not altogether now to my surprise, I found the owner's name, "J. Frew," recorded on one of the commencing leaves!

It was a 1793 diary, being used for the year 1794, and the very last entry was on the 30th April, 1794, "Quarter Sessions, James' Appeal. James' Recognisance." It is clear, therefore, that Mr. Frew did not meet with the alleged fatal accident until after the date of that entry, and I find that Theo. Jones gives the date of his death, recorded on his monument in Llansaintffraed Church, as July 9, 1794. Therefore, if vengeance came at all in this instance, it was not so speedy as Dr. Rees imagined!

How passing strange by the merest accident in the world thus to find the diary of the very man, of whom I had been writing, and whose original letter I was about to copy! The chances were enormous against my finding the diary at all, still more so against happening to open the book at that particular moment, and still further to notice the name! Such instances must be very rare.

* * *

This brings me to the real object of this paper. I am now about to give the account of the prosecution of the Rev. Thomas Bowen, with the circumstances leading up to it, by the Rev. John Frew himself, as narrated in his own letter to the Bishop of St. David's. I must first give the Bishop's letter to Mr. Frew, asking him to send a full account of the prosecution, a report of which had reached him indirectly. Both the letter of the Bishop, and that of Mr. Frew are original autograph letters, and with the diary referred to, are before me now, as I am writing.

Revd. Sir,—My late worthy correspondent, the Welsh Freeholder, has just published a pamphlet upon the Riots at Birmingham. It is one of the most virulent declamations against the Constitution and the Established Church that the meek spirit of Nonconformity ever yet produced. You will perhaps be surprised to hear that you are brought in question. Your proceedings against the Conventicles in your parish are mentioned in these terms:—

"A clergyman holding considerable preferments, and who is also a Justice of the Peace, has lately compelled a most inoffensive and worthy dissenting Minister of the Calvinistic persuasion, to pay twenty pound for the crime of preaching in an unlicensed house."

As the mention of this affair is introduced in such a manner, as clearly to lay the scene of it in my diocese, it is possible that I may be often asked about it. I wish therefore to be possessed of the real story, which to say the truth, I know at present, and had very imperfectly. Were not more than one fined? Were they who suffered the fine,

or any of them, Dissenting preachers of the Presbyterian, Independent, or Anabaptist, or of what denomination? Were they not Methodists? If Methodists, were they not of that description which use the Liturgy of the Church of England? If in any circumstance this worthy author has deviated from the strict line of Truth in his representation of the fact (which I much suspect) I shall take pleasure in giving him the lie in all companies where his name, or his infamous work are mentioned. Fail not to tell me particularly what were the immediate provocations that put you upon the prosecution.

I am Revd, Sir,

Your affectionate brother, and faithf servant,

(Sgd.) SAMUEL, St. David's.

Upper Seymour Street,

December 20th, 1791.

P.S.—Lay it not to heart that you have fallen under the censure of this writer. He is one of those whose pen, to use a happy expression of his own, “eulogizes when it censures,” and you are a sharer in a sma'l proportion only in his abuse, with Mr Pitt, Mr Burke, Lord Hawkesbury and myself.

Rev. Mr. Frew.

To this letter Mr. Frew replied as follows :—

(Copy.)

Llansaintfraed, January 1st, 1792.

My Lord,—The following is the real state of the Business between me and the Methodist Preacher whom I convicted. In the month of last May complaints were made to me by some of the Inhabitants of Llangorse, of which Parish I am Vicar, that numerous disorderly Meetings of Methodist Preachers and their Followers from various parts, had been held in a Barn in the said Parish, and that they continued to a very late hour of the night with violent jumpings and great noise, to the annoyance of the neighbourhood. I was at the same time informed, that another meeting was to take place in a few days. In consequence, I issued my Precent to the Constables of the Parish to attend at the Place, and to read it aloud to the People, and particularly to the Preachers. This Warrant or Precept recited the penalties to which they would be liable if they would obstinately persist in their intentions. This caution was fruitless. The Preachers mounted the Rostrum and harangued the multitude in their usual frantic manner with a description of their own Zeal and Persecution and with their own customary abuse of the established Clergy. Information of this being regularly made to me, I was obliged by law to summon the Orators to appear before me on a certain Day. In the meantime I had solicitations to drop further Prosecution, and I prevailed on the Informer to consent. For this Act of Lenity I naturally expected a decent return of thanks, but instead of that Act of Propriety, I was the Subject of their invective. They held frequent cabals, and this inoffensive and worthy Dissenting Minister of the Calvinistic Persuasion undertook the Task of preaching in an avowed defiance of me as a Clergyman and a Magistrate close to my Parsonage House. On Whitsun Monday returning from the performance of my Duty at my Church of Llansaintfread I was informed that one Thomas Bowen had signified his intention of Preaching the Word to poor Souls at the Barn of a Farmer within less than two hundred yards of my dwelling. I immediately sent a message to my neighbour, and desired to speak with him. The Churchwarden, who came with me from Church, was present at the farmer's arrival. He confessed that Bowen had applied to him for permission to preach at his House, and that he was to be there that Day for the purpose. To this honest and deluded man I read the Acts of Parliament on the Subject of Conventicles, and the consequence to himself, the Attendants, and Preacher. These cautionary steps were of no avail. Bowen arrived with a gang of low people from my parish of Llangorse, where he performed in the morning, and had exultingly told them that he would prove to them, that he had a right to preach at Llansaintfread also, in spite of Mr Frew. He was informed of the irregularity of his design, but he bid Defiance to the Law, the Justice and the Rector. A very respectable family in my Parish were spectators of this disorderly and indecent meeting, and called on me at a Farmer's House,

where I dined, and laid an information against the Preacher and the Owner of the Conventicle. However, the gentleman, who is an officer in the Army, not wishing to appear as an informer, I took the information of that person, and regularly proceeded to summon and convict Bowen by his own confession, and the Oath of two Witnesses. I overlooked the Error of the poor Farmer and the ignorant jumping crew. To your Lordship's queries concerning the different classes of Dissenters, and of what species the offenders were, as one only was fined, a description of him will be sufficient. He calls himself a Presbyterian, has two licensed places of worship, where he officiates, and is also a vagabond Methodist preacher. If his Piety is equal to his Impudence, Calvin himself must give way on the same comparison. As the bold step taken by Bowen was much admired, and applauded by the Sectaries, on the following Sunday another Orator, by trade a Skinner, appeared at Llangorse and solicited subscriptions for purchasing a place there, and it was to be licensed and appropriated to the purpose of what he termed godly instruction. The following Day an Information was made against him before me as a Magistrate. I did indeed summon him to appear, and finding that he was of that description which attend the Established Church, I did not proceed to convict, tho' it was in my Power. From this Instance, and my conduct towards the first offenders at Llangorse, your Lordship may perceive that Persecution was not my object, tho' it might have been easy for me as a Magistrate to have proceeded with severity.

Indulgence to tender and honest consciences is a proper claim; but persons of that character never seek it by Insolence and Turbulence. If ever, unfortunately for the established Church and its ministers, the modern Nonconformists should ever have Power, it is not to be doubted, but the antient cut-throat and plundering system would be adopted, and pursued with vigour.

May your Lordship long live in Health, and with full possession of those abilities which you have hitherto exerted in Defence of our Religion, and the Church of England, is the sincere wish of, etc.,

(Sgd.) J. F.

[This is probably the copy (in Mr. Frew's own handwriting) of the actual letter sent by him to the Bishop.—J. LL.]

Tor Glas Common Lawsuits.

The following is a copy of Mr. Wood the Arbitrator's Award in these protracted legal proceedings :—

Mr. James George Wood, of Lincoln's Inn, barrister-at-law, the arbitrator appointed to determine the action brought by Howell William Richards claiming commonable rights over the pieces of common land taken by the Merthyr Urban District Council, has made his award, which is in the several terms following :—

1.—All the lands taken by the District Council as in the said Agreement of reference mentioned are situate in the said Parish of Llanfrynach in the County of Brecknock and no part thereof is situate in the said Parish of Cantref.

2.—All owners of freehold farms within the said Parish of Llanfrynach are and were at the time of the taking aforesaid entitled by themselves or their tenants occupiers of such farms to common of pasture on all common or waste lands within the Parish of Llanfrynach for all their sheep cattle and ponies as appurtenant to their said several freehold farms.

3.—No owner or occupier of lands outside the Parish of Llanfrynach is or was at the time of the taking aforesaid entitled in respect thereof to commonable rights on the common or waste lands in the Parish of Llanfrynach.

4.—Such commonable rights as aforesaid are and have from time immemorial been exercised without regard to the particular Lordship Manor or Submanor of which the particular farm to which such commonable rights are or were appurtenant is holden or of

which the common lands over which the same are or were exercised is waste. And owners of farms within or holden of one Manor or Submanor exercise and have as aforesaid exercised such rights of common on waste lands parcel of another manor or other Manors within the Parish.

5.—Such rights as to sheep are and have from time immemorial been exercised under the “arosfa” system or usage, that is to say, that for the mutual convenience of the farmers in the enjoyment of their said rights of common of pasture the sheep of each farm are as far as is possible kept on a particular part of the waste called the “arosfa” of that farm and known to the shepherds but not defined by artificial boundaries or artificial marks and the sheep of other farms within the Parish are as far as is possible kept off that particular part of the waste.

6.—The “arosfa” system or usage does not apply and has not been applied and is in fact inapplicable to cattle and ponies.

7.—The particular parts of the waste forming the several “arosfas” may be and are from time to time changed in shape extent and position as the convenience of the farmers may require.

8.—The sheep of 2 or more farms whether of the same or different owners or occupiers may be and are sometimes kept on one “arosfa.”

9.—The “arosfa” system or usage existing for mutual convenience only does not permanently qualify in law the actual commonable rights of the owners of the freehold farms as first hereinbefore set forth.

10.—At the time of the taking in or about the year 1895 by the District Council of portions of Torglas Common and Neuadd fach Common as in the said agreement of reference mentioned the lands so taken were respectively parts of the Common or waste lands aforesaid within the parish of Llanfrynach and as such subject to the commonable rights hereinbefore set forth.

11.—The portion of Torglas Common so taken as aforesaid was at the time when the same was so taken part of a larger area of the said Common or waste lands which had from time immemorial been and was then used and enjoyed under the system or usage aforesaid as the “arosfa” of Blaen Taf farm within the said parish of Llanfrynach which farm at the time of the taking aforesaid belonged to the said Howell William Richards in fee simple and was in the occupation of John Williams as tenant thereof from year to year.

12.—The portion of Neuaddfach Common so taken as aforesaid was at the time when the same was so taken part of a larger area of the said Common or waste lands which was then and had from the year 1881 or thereabouts been used and enjoyed under the system or usage aforesaid as the “arosfa” of Llwynon farm within the said parish of Llanfrynach which farm at the time of the taking-aforesaid belonged to the said Howell William Richards in fee simple and was in his own occupation until the time when such larger area as last aforesaid became the “arosfa” of Llwynon farm as aforesaid the same had been from time immemorial used and enjoyed under the system or usage aforesaid as the “arosfa” of Neuadd fach farm within the Parish of Llanfrynach which last mentioned farm was in or about the year 1881 sold and conveyed by the predecessors in title of the said Howell William Richards to the then Local Board of Health of Merthyr Tydfil for the purposes of their water undertaking.

13.—Save as aforesaid there was not at the time of the taking aforesaid by the District Council of the said portions of Torglas Common and Neuadd fach Common any commonable rights affecting or exerciseable over those portions of the same Commons.

14.—The names of the persons who as owners of freehold farms in the Parish of Llanfrynach were at the time of the taking as aforesaid by the District Council of the said portions of Torglas Common and Neuaddfach Common entitled to such commonable rights as aforesaid (subject to the said “arosfa” system or usage) in or over the lands so taken are set forth in the 1st column of the Schedule hereinafter written And the names of the persons who as occupiers of such freehold farms respectively were at the same time entitled to such commonable rights as aforesaid (subject to the said “arosfa” system or usage) in or over the lands so taken are set forth in the 2nd Column in the same Schedule

and the names or description of the farms and lands to which such commonable rights were appurtenant are set forth in the 3rd Column of the same Schedule and the rateable values for the purpose of assessment to the rates for the relief of the Poor of the said farms and lands respectively at the time of the taking aforesaid are set forth in the 4th Column of the same Schedule that is to say :—

THE SCHEDULE ABOVE REFERRED TO.

Names of Owners.	Names of Occupiers.	Names or descriptions of farms or lands	Rateable Values.		
			£	s.	d.
Charles Henry de Winton	David Davies	Tynllwyn	108	0	0
The Executors of the late Colonel Lloyd	Executors of late Col. Lloyd ..	Abercynrig	175	14	6
Howell William Richards	John Williams	Blaen Taff	72	0	0
Charles Henry de Winton	Thomas Evans	Caerau	31	10	0
J. P. Gwynne Holford	David Jones	Cefn Cyff	0	9	6
William de Winton	John Evans	Cwm Cynwyn	31	10	0
Edward Davies	John Smith	Cwm Orgwm	78	13	6
Executors of late Colonel Lloyd	Daniel Rees	Velindre Lands	2	13	0
Executors of late Colonel Lloyd	Thomas Davies	Wernmarchog	30	12	0
William de Winton	Thomas Jones	Glanusk	270	0	0
David Morgan	William Morgan	Llanbrynean	81	0	0
The Marquess Camden	David Jones	Llwynacelyn	40	10	0
Howell William Richards	Howell William Richards	Llwyn-on	20	14	0
The Rev. J. J. Evans	John Prosser	Llwynfron	8	2	0
William Evans	John Prosser	Rhiware fach	1	15	0
Charles Henry de Winton	William de Winton	Maesderwen	10	0	0
William de Winton	Howel Davies	Tymawr	135	0	0
Charles Henry de Winton	John Powell	Pannau	18	0	0
Howell Davies	Howel Davies	Pannau	100	16	0
The Marquess Camden	John Powell	Pentwyn	27	0	0
William Smith	William Smith	Ty Evan Shôn	10	0	0
W. Ricketts	David Rees	Triffynon las	28	10	0
The Rev. D. Saunders Jones	The Rev. D. Saunders Jones ..	Glebe land	2	17	0
Charles Henry de Winton	John Morgan	Tregaer	126	0	0
Charles Henry de Winton	Thomas Jones	Tyfry	180	0	0
W. de Winton	John Evans	Tyellwyd	36	0	0
Sir Joseph Russell Bailey	William Hall	Tynwydd	55	10	0
The Rev. H. Williams	John Powell	Penyrheol	37	16	0
Executors of T. Williams	William Powell	Coedcae Penyrheol ..	4	15	0
Executors of Col. Lloyd	Thomas Davies	Rhiwau	40	10	0
Executors of Col. Lloyd	Mrs Price	Wern	18	0	0
Charles Henry de Winton	William Morgan	Brickhouse Fields ..	9	10	0

And I do hereby further determine and award that if and so far as the costs of this reference have been increased by the Cantref Committee as such being parties thereto such extra costs of all parties shall be borne by the Cantref Committee And that the said Howell William Richards shall bear and pay his own costs of the reference except such extra costs (if any) as aforesaid and shall also pay to the Llanfrynach Committee one moiety of their costs of the reference except such extra costs (if any) as aforesaid and that the Llanfrynach Committee shall bear the other moiety of their costs of the reference except as aforesaid And shall also pay the costs of the Award And that if the costs of this award shall in the first instance be paid by the said Howell William Richards then the same shall be repaid to him by the Llanfrynach Committee or set off against the costs payable by him to them as aforesaid.

The Granting of a Faculty for a Seat in St. Mary's Church, Brecon, 1727.

Richardus permissione Divina Meneven Episcopus Dilecto Nobis in Christo Richards Davies Clerico Vicario Ste Mariæ Virginis Brecon In Comitatu Brecon Et Diocess Meneven Salutem Tibi Precipimus quatinus in Capella Beate Mariæ Virginis predict Die Dominico sive Festivo proximo et immediate sequen receptionem presentium Dumque Major ibidem ad Divina audiend adfuerit Populi Multitudine hæc Verba Anglicana sequen palam et publice Denunties et declares (vizt.)

Whereas complaint hath been made and information given into the Consistory Court for the Archdeaconry of Brecon in the Diocese of St. David by and on the part and behalf of Margaret Lewis of the Town of Brecon in the County of Brecon widdow that she is destitute of a Seat or Pew within this Church to sit stand or kneel in to hear Divine Service and sermon read and preached And whereas there is a certain vacant seat situate in the north Isle in this Church or Chappell between the seat where Elizabeth Fisher spinster sits in on the west side thereof and the seat wherein the servants of Elizabeth Price widdow doe commonly sit in on the east side thereof fit for the said Margaret Lewis and her family to sit stand and kneel in to hear Divine Service and sermon read and preached in this Church or Chappell and whereas the said Margaret Lewis has desired that the said vacant seat might be allotted and confirmed unto her for her the said Margaret Lewis and her family to sit stand and kneel in as aforesaid I do therefore peremptorily cite all and every person and persons that have or pretend to have any right title or interest in the said vacant seat or pretend to shew any cause or reason why the said seat should not be granted or confirmed to the said Margaret Lewis for the use aforesaid that they and every of them be and personally appear before the Right Reverend father in God Richard Lord Bishop of St. David his Chancellor his Surrogates or other competent judge in this behalf in this Church or Chappell of St. Mary and in the usual Consistory place here upon Thursday the two and twentieth day of this instant February att ten of the clock in the morning of the same day then and there to shew propound and alledge their severall claimes and interests and reasons why the said vacant seat should not in due form of law be granted and confirmed unto the said Margaret Lewis And I do further intimate unto them that if they do not appear att the day time and place aforesaid or appearing do not shew any lawfull cause to the contrary the said Chancellor or his Surrogates do intend to proceed or will proceed to the granting or confirming of the aforesaid seat to the said Margaret Lewis for her self and her family to sit stand and kneel in to hear Divine Service and sermon their and every of their absence or rather contumacy notwithstanding.

Et Quid in Premiss feceritis Vicarium Nostrum in Spiritualibus Generalem Ejusve Surrogatum sive Surrogatos aut . . . in hac parte Competen quemcunque Debite Certetis una Cum presen Dat sub Sigillo quo in hac parte utimur Secundo Die Februarii Anno dni 1727.

CAROLUS LEWIS NOTARIUS PUBLICUS,
Reg. Deputatus.

[Endorsed]

PROCLAMATION FOR A SEAT.

This is to certify that ye within written proclamation has been read in ye Chappell of St. Marys according to ye directions therein given

by me

D. MORGAN.

A Letter of 1773.

DAVID POWELL OF ABERSENNY TO HIS CHILD.

DEAR CHILD,—In compliance to your request of ye 5th Inst., I have given Miss Molly Williams eight guineas for which you have the inclosed draft upon her Brother, which I hope you will receive in due time. Billy Williams would not draw under 30 days which I thought might be too long for you as you intend setting out so soon. The 3 guineas over and above your Request is to buy some things for your sisters which your Mother desires you will get as cheap and as good as you can (viz.) a hat and cloak for your Sister Nelly, such as you bought for your Coz. of Goytre and a silk capucheen apiece for Molly and Peggy, if you can get tolerable good ones at second hand they may serve for the two last.

I was at Monmouth to see the Race (owing to a letter I received 2 days before from ye old Exciseman at Usk that he was very ill) and stood my ground with the Welshman, and got about two guineas and a half, tho my friends and neighbours turned tail and took to ye Englishman, and were drawn in most handsomly (viz., Treweren, Landilo and the Turk) if the English had been prudent they would have had odds but they overpowered ye Welsh and frightened them to that degree that they did not know what to do. Mr. Davy Watkins is a widower this fortnight ago—Morgan Powell's settlement was drawn up by Mr. Robt. Williams. I suppose that couple will be married before you arrive. Since I have been with Miss Molly Williams and this minute indeed. Your Mother and Brother Ricy informed me that he intended to send 2 Guineas to buy him a watch (at your proposal I find) if the Parson comes up before you set out (as he says he will) it shall be sent by him, otherwise you shall be refunded by your Brother when you are come, if you can conveniently spare it.

The Parson's lawsuit I apprehend will soon be settled, without my being obliged to put in my answer, both parties mett last Wednesday in Mr. Williams' office, who seemed to be satisfied that the Parson's title was good, as it appeared that David Walter in his life time had been in the possession of it for upwards of 22 years, and Howell Thomas's holding it under David Walter's will for 50 years afterward, but it was from thence adjourned to Mr. Williams of Penpont for his opinion accordingly I was obliged to waite on him on Friday last (where Coz. Powell also attended) with the Deeds, who waved it off by advising to have the Case stated and to have Counsel's opinion thereon, and yesterday I was with Mr. Robt. Williams, talked some part of the matter over, who desired me to acquaint Coz. Powell that he would be glad to see him, and that he thought ye affair might be settled without any further expense, so Coz. is to call upon him to-morrow in his way to London; the old people of Ystradvelltey are in a manner satisfied, but Tom keeps such a route, that he will never submit for want of a fine, which I imagine is not to be found, but I believe Mr. Williams will not be concerned for him. If the affair should go on Coz. tells me, I shan't be obliged to put in my answer, till I shall see theirs by which time you will be in the country.

Mr. Jones, of Treweren, who dines with me now sends his compliments to you, as does Coz. Powell, who is also here. I can think of nothing worth sending you at present, but that we have escaped the small-pox as yett here, and at Llwyn y vron, tho it has been very mortal in the neighbourhood, where twos and threes have been buried from ye same house. We are all well and join in wishing to see you safe and well at Abersenny, which is the sincere wish also of your ever loving

FATHER DAVID POWELL.

Abersenny, June 13th, 1773.

P.S.—You mentioned nothing whether you had engaged yourself an office in town or not. I spoke with Mr. Powell, the Ironmonger, about the room where Coz. Nancy lived in under his rooffe, he promised not to lett it to any body till I should hear from you, something concerning that in your next.

The Fisheries of Breconshire in Olden Times.

Very few references are to be found in old books and papers to this subject, though the Usk and Wye and the numerous smaller streams flowing through the county must have supplied our ancestors with an abundance of fish. Giraldus Cambrensis described the Wye as famous for its salmon, and the Usk for its trout. In some old Penkelly Manor papers I find the term *Piscar*, or *Piscaria*—fishing pools—used once, but once only. In the lease from the Prior of Brecon of the Usk Mill at Brecon not a word is to be found as to any fishing rights. In an old paper of 1714, a rent is stated to have been received by Gabriel Powell, steward, on behalf of Lord Somerset, of a fishery in the Usk at Crickhowell, doubtless that of the old mill and weir just above Crickhowell bridge, rented subsequently in 1821, by Mr. John Hotchkis, who was a great fisherman. The records of our Quarter Sessions will show that he was the first to move the appointment of Fence months for salmon in Breconshire. Later, in 1754, on the sale of the Buckland and Penkelly estate by Roger Jones' devisees to the Gwynne family, mention is made of "all the Buckland fishery," and in 1797, when Mr. Harcourt Powell sold the manor of Penkelly Cwmorgwm, a special reservation is made of the fishery in the Usk adjacent to the Llanhamlach estate and parish. In 1784 John William Powell was presented at the Court Leet of Welsh Penkelly Manor (then belonging to the Crown) "for fishing in the Taffeehan river with nets without consent."

Unimportant fisheries, as we should now consider them to be, were in olden times mentioned in old writings. In every lease or agistment of the Great Forest of Brecknock, fisheries of the Crown in the Nedd and Tawe rivers were specially dealt with, as being included in the taking, or reserved. And it is to Llangorse Lake, or the "fishing pool of Llinsavathan," that the palm of notice is to be given. It had great repute in the pre-reformation days and kept up its name in 1650, when a special Parliamentary Survey (see Hist. Mem. Breconshire, page 10) was devoted to it. Below Pont-ar-Llynfi there were, it is said, "two weirs belonging to the king, called 'the King's weirs,' at which a good store of eels were taken in potts at ye season of the year for catching of the same." A fishery in the Wye, since sold, is stated to have belonged to a manor held by Rice Powel's charity.

Theophilus Jones though not alluding to any particular fisheries, has some valuable and interesting remarks in his county history on the fish found in Breconshire rivers, and strongly urges that pains should be taken to protect and cultivate the river fisheries. I am almost tempted to reprint what he has written on the subject at pages 16, 17, 18 and 19 of Vol. I. His remarks are very accurate and intelligent, and his recommendations far sighted. In his observations on the habitat of the sewin, east and west are apparently wrongly printed for west and east, and I may add that the estuary of the Usk and the small tributaries flowing into it, where pure, abounded with sewin, when I was lessee of the fisheries there in 1856. But that delicate fish seldom ascended the Usk far, and in Breconshire we rarely meet with one. The white trout we occasionally catch in the spring I regard as a sewin. At page 356, Vol. II. he has an interesting account of the Lake of Llynsavaddan, and the fish found there, and how they were caught with a draft net *pitched* here and there in the middle of the pool, and then hauled into a boat. I have seen the net that was used, and the old fishermen who used it—they lived in a cottage in a small dingle near Cathedine, but I have never seen the net actually used. I do not think the old *pitched* draft net has been used in the Lake since 1850, and the old race of fishermen has long since died out.

Further at page 432, vol. III., under the head of Llaellly parish, Theo. Jones sounds the alarm as to the injury the then recently opened canal was doing to the fisheries of the Usk, and adds that "unless a smaller grating is placed at the mouth of the feeder from Newton Pool, I apprehend a lamentable deficiency in our stock in the Usk." Truthfully prophetic, that! It was not until 1866 a really effective grating was placed. Theo. Jones did not, however, foresee that the water of the Usk one day would be drained away by that canal as to leave the bed dry below the weir. That was an evil that came long after his time, and mainly in our careless degenerate days!

Hugh Thomas, the Herald, writing at Brecon in 1678, describes the county as "well stocked with wood, water, and fish, especially Trout. The best and the most are taken in the Usk river, no better in all Wales, having abundance of fine springs and purling streams, besides the Usk and Honddu, etc., which make the country most pleasant and healthy."—[Essay, Brecknockshire, Bodleian Library.]

Henry Vaughan, the Silurist, was a fisherman, and appears to have had a great love for our famous river, the Usk. He apostrophises her in verse in the *Olor Iscanus*, and prays for her safe journey to the sea, with unsullied purity, and with an abundant stream! A salmon and a Latin poem were his welcome gift to his friend Dr. Powell, of Cantref.

This is all I can recollect to have seen about our fisheries in old papers. There are no records extant of great takes of fish in either the Usk and Wye, or the Nedd and Tawe, and Llangorse Lake seems to have received the greater notice, and to have been held in chief esteem.

Consistory Court.

CITATION FOR NON-PAYMENT OF TITHE, WHEN DEFAULTER IN ONE DIOCESE MOVED TO ANOTHER, 1746.

Edward Wynn Doctor of Laws Vicar General and Official Principal of the Right Reverend Father in God James by divine permission Lord Bishop of Hereford lawfully constituted To the Right Reverend Father in God Richard by divine permission Lord Bishop of Saint Davids his Vicar General in Spirituals or any other competent judge in that behalf greeting Whereas the Reverend George Phelps Clerk Master of Arts and lawful Surrogate rightly and duly in proceeding in a certain Cause of Subtraction of Tythes or other Ecclesiastical Dues lately depending before us in judgment between Susannah White widow the and Executrix of the last Will and Testament of John White Clerk late Vicar of the Vicarage and Parish Church of Kington with the Chapels annexed in the County and Diocese of Hereford deceased the party agent of the one part and Thomas Welson of the Parish of Brilley in the County and Diocese aforesaid the defendant on the other part And whereas the said Susannah White now lives in the Parish of Glazebury in the County of Radnor and within your Diocese so that without your aid the said Susannah White cannot be compelled to appear before us to the effect and for the purposes hereafter written And whereas our Holy Mother the Church wheresoever acknowledged throughout the Universe is one and the same and the Ordinances of different Courts with regard to things that concern the Administration of Justice looked upon as the Sons of one common Mother and are therefore obliged mutually to aid and assist one another in the execution thereof We therefore humbly intreat that you in supply of justice would by your authority cite or cause to be cited peremptorily the said Susannah White that she appear before us, our lawful Surrogate or other competent judge in this behalf in the Cathedral Church at Hereford and in the Bishop's Consistory Place there on Thursday, the sixteenth day of March next ensuing between the hours of nine and twelve in the forenoon of the same day then and there to shew good and lawful cause (if any she can) why the sentence passed in the said cause against her should not be put in execution and the costs of suit taxed and to see and hear the said sentence put in execution and the costs of suit taxed under pain of the law and contempt thereof And further to see and receive as unto law and justice shall appertain And we for our parts shall be ready on the like occasion to give our assistance towards the fulfilling of justice and the better execution of the laws; and do further request of you to certify your proceedings to us our lawful Surrogate or competent Judge in this behalf on the aforesaid day and at the time and place together with your proceedings therein.

Given under our seal of office the sixth day of February in the year of our Lord 1748.

THO. CROFT, Dep. Regr.

Terrier of Llywell Parish.

The following is one of the most interesting of the old Breconshire Terriers. There appears to have been a modus of one penny on each farm in lieu of hay, but there was no modus or charge whatever on corn. The heaviest and most productive charge was that on lambs, if we rightly understand it to have been one lamb in seven, however many there were—if there were seventy lambs, then ten went to the tithe-owners—and sheep rearing was then, as now, the chief industry of the parish. The impropiators, who were the Dean and Chapter of St. David's, monopolised the glebe land, and the Vicar had to be content with the churchyard. And it will be seen that there was no Vicarage. The list of mortuaries payable to the parish clerk is very interesting, describing as it does the dress of men and women of that day. The woman's hood would be the capucheen mentioned in David Powell of Abersenny's letter. Jones, in note Vol. III. p. 674, alludes to this mortuary custom.

A TERRIER of the glebe lands, tythes, moduses, dues, rights and profits belonging to the rectory and vicarage of Llywell, in the County of Brecon, and Diocese of Saint David's, made the day of in the year of our Lord 1800.

Glebe land. the closes known by the names of Cae Mawr, Cae Bach, and Ynis Llywell, contain twelve acres or thereabouts, now in the occupation of Mary William, widow, belonging to ye impropiators.

The churchyard, containing three roods or thereabouts, belongs to the Vicar, and the walls and gates around the same are made and repaired by the parish.

There is no glebe or house belonging to the vicarage. Two-thirds of all tithes and other dues, except surplice fees, belong to the rector or impropiators, and the other third, and the surplice fees to the vicar.

In lieu of the tithe of hay, there is a modus of one penny for every farm or ancient holding throughout the parish, payable at Easter.

In lieu of tithe calves, there is a modus of one penny for every yearling beast reared throughout the parish, payable yearly at Easter.

In lieu of tithe colts there is a modus of one penny for every yearling filly, and two pence for every yearling horse colt drop'd in the parish, payable at Easter.

In lieu of the tithe of milk there is a modus of 12 cheeses made of 12 days's milk yearly, and delivered on two different days, viz., the first six cheeses at Midsummer and the others at Michaelmas, and made six days preceding the respive times of delivery, by every person keeping one or more cow or cows, within the said parish.

Tythes of lambs in kind if seven or above, to pay a lamb, under seven a halfpenny each lamb, and three odd lambs to pay nothing.

Pigs, one from every litter if they exceed two in number.

Geese, if three or more in number to pay one from every pair.

All other tithes are due in kind, but no tithes have ever been demanded of cottagers, except from taxes.

For every married couple, threepence; every single housekeeper, three half-pence; for every male and female servant above twelve years of age, one penny; and for every child above that age, three farthings, due yearly at Easter.

To the Vicar for every wedding by bands, three shillings and sixpence, and one shilling for publishing the same, by licence, seven shillings.

At every churching of women, one shilling and sixpence; and for every funeral, one shilling; also payable by the churchwardens for copying the register, and making the presentment yearly, at Easter, 7s.; and for answering the Bishop's queries at every Visitation, 6s.

There is a due to the parish clerk for every family paying taxes, and keeping a separate fire, fourpence yearly at Easter, and from every cottager twopence, payable at Easter.

For every wedding by banns, sixpence; by licence, one shilling; for every funeral

and for tolling ye bell and digging the grave, one shilling and fourpence; for every churching of women, twopence; for every proclamation in the churchyard, fourpence, except for parish affairs, for which there is nothing.

Mortuaries are also due to the parish clerk as follows, viz.: From every housekeeper the best hat, wig, handkerchief or cravat, gloves, girdle, breeches, shoes and stockings.

From wives and widows the best hood, cap, ribbands, handkerchiefs, gloves, shoes and stockings, except the inhabitants of Treacastle, who pay fourpence in lieu of the said mortuaries, or a composition according to the Act of Parliament, at the option of the relations of the deceased, but on the decease of persons receiving parish relief there is nothing due for mortuaries.

The church and chancel are kept in repair by the parish.

There are also due to the parish clerk from the vicar and impropiators two of the best tithe cheeses, viz., one at Midsummer and the other at Michaelmas; also the best lamb and sixteen pounds of wool at the times these tithes are payable.

In witness whereof, we the vicar, churchwardens, impropiators, and inhabitants of the said parish, assembled at a vestry meeting, pursuant to publick notice given thereof, have hereunto as also to a duplicate hereof, set our hands this day of in the year of our Lord 1800.

The Act of 1776 and the Town of Brecon.

The object of this Act passed in 16 George III. (1776) was to supply the Borough with water, to provide for cleansing, paving, and lighting the streets and lanes, and the making of some of the streets more commodious by widening the same. In fact it was a General Improvement Act on a big scale, and such as the Borough has never known since.

The Authority to carry out the Act was a composite body, called Commissioners, and which consisted of the Bailiff, Recorder, Aldermen and Council of the Borough, with the addition of some hundred or more named persons duly qualified residing in the Town, or elsewhere—ownership or occupation of property in the Borough to a certain amount, being the necessary qualification.

1. **WATER SUPPLY**—Power was given to the Commissioners, by agreement with the persons interested therein, to enter upon and take any stream within the Borough for the purpose of such supply, and to lay mains in the streets, &c., but there was a proviso, that if the water was taken from the Honddu River, there should be only one pipe laid in, and the diameter of the same should not exceed four inches.

Your readers will find in "Poole's History" some interesting details as to the carrying out of the works.

2. **PAVING**.—The footways were to be laid with flat stones or a smooth pavement. The horseways to be laid with good pebbles, "or such other materials" as the Commissioners may think best.

3. **LIGHTING**.—Glass lamps were to be fixed in the streets, lanes, and public passages in such number as the Commissioners may direct, and provision made for lighting the same.

4. **CLEANSING**.—There is a general provision as to cleansing the streets, and in addition thereto this special clause: "Every person after the passing of this Act shall on Wednesday and Saturday in every week, sweep and cleanse, or cause the same to be done, the Footpaths and Streets extending to the Kennels (the ancient term for the gutters or side channels of the street) before their respective houses, buildings, and walls, between the hours of two and six in the afternoon on pain of forfeiting two shillings and sixpence for every neglect of the same."

5. **ROAD MATERIAL**.—The Commissioners were empowered to dig and carry away for

the repairs of the streets, &c.: Gravel stone and other material from the rivers Usk, Honddu, and Tarrall, and from any waste land within the Borough or Liberties thereof.

This may be a useful provision to bear in mind, as I presume the present Council has inherited in this respect all the powers that the Commissioners were possessed of.

6. STREET IMPROVEMENTS.—The following is the Schedule of Buildings necessary to be taken down for the purpose of making the Street Improvements resolved upon :

- (1) Ship Street Improvement.—To make the street or passage leading from Ship Street to Usk Bridge Thirty Feet wide. Three Houses situate on the North side of the said street or passage, now or late in the occupation of Andrew Morgan, skinner, John Rees and David Walters, shoemakers; the old building, called Porthbach, and Gateway adjoining.
- (2) Watton Gate Improvement.—To widen the Entrance into the said Town from Abergavenny, the Gateway, called the Watton Gate, and the Buildings thereto belonging, now or late in the occupation of John Pye, hatter. Two old Cottages near the Watton Gate, one of them now vacant, the other in the possession of Elizabeth Batty, widow; also a small House, Stable, or Building at the West End of the Bulwark, near St. Mary's Church, now or late in the occupation of the Reverend Charles Lloyd.
- (3) The Struet Improvement.—To widen the Entrance into the said Town from Hay, The Gate, Gateway, and Buildings thereon, commonly called the Struet Gate; and part of the Town Gaol, and three Houses adjoining, now or late in the occupation of William Frew, Thomas Willet, staymaker, and James Lewis, the younger, butcher. A House now in the occupation of Thomas Williams, tailor. A House now or late in the occupation of James Jones, watchmaker; and John King, shopkeeper; and a House now or late in the occupation of John Smith, peruke-maker.

The year 1776 just preceded the formation of Wilkins' Brecon Old Bank, which took place in 1778. There were giants about in those days in Brecon—men of much enterprise.

The Gateway at Porthbach, the Watton Gateway, and the Struet Gateway with buildings thereon, were all standing at that date. And where are the "Local Industries" to be found now of the Hatter, the Stay-maker, and the Peruke (Wig) maker?

There is a bit of very interesting Local History to be gleaned from this long forgotten Act of Parliament.

The Usk and the Canal.

It may be of public service to state here some particulars with reference to this important case.

1. The Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal Co. (1793) had and still has statutory powers to take water for the true purposes of navigation from all streams within 2000 yards of the line of the canal.

2. The Monmouthshire Railway and Canal Co. (1792) had and still has entirely distinct statutory powers to take water for the true purposes of its canals from certain streams and reservoirs adjacent to the course thereof in Monmouthshire.

3. The Brecknock Canal was commenced to be made at Clydach, Llanelly, and the length to Brecon (opened in 1801) was first completed. Subsequently the lower length from Clydach to Pontymoile was commenced, and then in due time completed. It was not until 1813 the junction with the Monmouthshire Canal was effected, and a through passage for boats from Brecon to Newport secured.

4. As the canal to Brecon was in progress of construction, the various streams near were utilised for filling the completed length. Signs of this are evident to-day. At a

later stage each of these streams in turn was abandoned as feeders, except the Crawnon brook at Llangynidr, which is still used for such purpose.

5. Mr. Dadford was the engineer of the canal, and Benjamin Outram was called in as consulting engineer in 1799. His report is a valuable document, and still extant, and is of great importance, as he gave much attention to the supply of water.

6. From time to time (1800 to 1830) various tramways were formed to communicate with the Brecon Canal, viz. :

Llanelly (Clydach) tramroad.	
Llangattock	„
Brynoer	„
Hay	„
Bailey's (Nantyglo)	„
Blaenavon Co.	„

Nearly all these tramroads have ceased to exist, and the tramplates pulled up.

7. The trade on the Brecon Canal was large in the period from 1815 to 1840, and possibly amounted to 12 boats, of 21 tons burthen, passing each way throughout its entire length of 32 miles in a day. The tolls amounted to £10,000 and upwards a year, and dividends were paid of 5 per cent. on the shares, and at the same time the debenture stock was partly extinguished.

8. The trade of the Brecon Canal fell off after 1850 (the Nantyglo iron being no longer sent that way) and in 1865, soon after the opening of the Brecon and Merthyr Railway, fell to a very low point, the important Brecon Boat Company ceasing then to trade from Llanelly to Brecon, and the Brynoer and Hay tramroads being closed.

9. The present trade of the Brecon Canal cannot be said at the outside to be more than three boats (only partly laden) each way per week for the upper half the length of the canal, and only one boat per week each way for the whole length of the canal.

10. The present condition of the Brecon Canal itself as regards navigation is bad, the bed of it being mudded up and shallow and also full of leaks, and the lock gates at Llangynidr (5 locks) nearly all out of repair.

11. The power to take water from the Usk at Brecon was obtained in the Act of 1793, and the power to purchase Usk Mill at Brecon was obtained in the Amendment Act of 1801. This latter power of purchase was not exercised until 1827.

12. In addition to the report of Benjamin Outram on the water supply in 1799, the correspondence with Mr. William Gwyn, the owner of the Usk Mill at that time, which is still extant, should be read. The feeder to the canal and the race to the mill were both supplied, there being a main sluice for each. It would seem that the Canal Company had not then the remotest idea of it ever being necessary to take the whole flow of the river there.

13. In 1833 or thereabouts (the period of the largest trade on the Brecon Canal) the Company greatly enlarged the conduit from the entrance of the feeder at Usk Mill, and placed syphon pipes of great size under the Honddu stream at Brecon.

14. The first fish-pass in Newton Weir was placed there in 1863. It was a straight cut through the weir, 2ft. 6in. wide by 1ft. 6in. deep. This was taken up in 1901, and a diagonal pass substituted, with less capacity for passing down water than the old one.

15. Newton Weir has been considerably raised at various times since 1870, and made more watertight.

16. In September, 1899—a time of excessive drought—nearly 18 millions of gallons of water were taken into the canal at Brecon in 24 hours, all through the week.

17. In ordinary times 20 millions of gallons of water are taken into the canal there, apart from the supply of one million to two million gallons of water taken in from the Crawnon at Llangynidr.

18. This supply of 20 million gallons is sufficient to maintain an incessant passage of boats through the locks for the whole 24 hours (a 4 minute service, the very quickest possible), and with a margin to spare of 4 million gallons per day.

19. The Brecon Canal was purchased by the Monmouthshire Railway and Canal Co. in 1865 for £29,000 share capital, and a sum for debentures besides.

20. The whole property of the Monmouthshire Railway and Canal Co. was acquired by the Great Western Railway in 1880.

21. The conveyances of land to the Brecon and Abergavenny Canal Co., 1798 and later, are all extant, and should be seen, especially those of the Crawnnon Mill, Llangynider, and Usk Mill at Brecon.

22. The first large pipe into the Brecon Canal, for other purposes than navigation, was granted, to be at will, to Sir Joseph Bailey, Bart., M.P., of Glanusk Park, in 1854. It was 6in. diameter, and £10 rent was paid.

23. In 1847-9 the Monmouthshire Canals were supplemented by railways, and a portion of the canal was abandoned, and also some of the previous supplies of water, but fresh powers of taking other supplies from streams and reservoirs were given.

24. These fresh powers of taking supplies were never exercised, and since 1849 the length of the Monmouthshire Canal from Pontymoile to the junction of the Crumlin Canal has mainly depended for its supply of water upon the good will of the Brecon Canal Company.

25. In 1847-9 the M. R. & Co. Co. made a strong effort to close the whole of this canal from Pontymoile downwards and through Newport. They did not succeed, being opposed, it is believed, by the Brecon Canal Co. See Mr. Harrison's (manager) letter, still extant.

26. The Brecon Canal Co. never made any reservoirs, though possessed of powers to do so, trusting entirely to a supply from the open river.

On the Crawnnon brook such reservoirs could be conveniently formed to-day, and at a very moderate cost.

If the present large abstraction of water from the river at Brecon is continued, that coupled with increased pollution, justifies the description given in my letter in the *Times* of Nov. 26th, 1901, of the river Usk as "a dying river." Remedies must be quickly applied in order to save its very life, and the first question that demands attention is that of the canal and the flagrant abuse of its powers.

The following copies of interesting papers are annexed :—

Extracts from Benjamin Outram's Report on the Canal, dated July 1st, 1799. He was the eminent engineer called in by the Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal Company to advise during the construction of the canal :—

"I have particularly examined the other parts of the Line proposed for the Canal between Tal-y-bont and Brecon, and advise a small deviation at the crossing of the Usk. I recommend the aqueduct to be erected upon a rock about two hundred yards below the New Bridge, instead of the situation above the bridge before proposed. And instead of the two proposed Locks of small rise, I recommend one Lock of rise equal to both be erected by the road east of the New Bridge, and so that the Bridge for that road may be over the Lock Tail. By these alterations considerable expense and risque will be avoided, and the summit pond will be more than double the length before proposed, and if made one foot deeper than the other ponds of the Canal, it will be found very commodious, and by cutting the northwardly end or bason of the Canal, so that the east side of it may lay open all the small pieces of freehold land between the line and the turnpike road, the best possible advantages for wharfage and promotion of trade will be secured.

"I have examined the different feeders, and gauged such as appear likely to be of consequence, and have calculated the number of locks full, each would produce in twenty-four hours, taking for these calculations the quantity of water used by passing a vessel through a lock of ten feet fall, at one hundred and eighty tons.

"On the lower level, the principal feeders are the Clydach, which I found to produce sixty-two locks in the twenty-four hours, and the Nant Organ, which gave twenty-eight locks in the twenty-four hours. The Nant Rhyd y Mirch, and the brooks at Govilon and Llangynider, would form feeders of less consequence; but there are several mills on each, and there can be no occasion to use them for the purposes of the canal. The Cwm Crawnnon brook, which is taken in above the second lock, yields twenty-two locks full of

water in twenty-four hours. The several feeders between Llanvigan and Llanfrynach, on the tunnel level, collectively yielded thirteen locks in the twenty-four hours. On the summit level, the Brynich brook yielded four locks, and the Honddu sixty locks in the twenty-four hours. I did not think it necessary to gauge the abundant stream of the river Usk. If it should be found necessary to make a feeding sluice from that river, water sufficient for the supply of many canals might at any time be taken from it.

"The waters were very low at the time the above gauges were taken, the season being considered a very dry one.

"Upon the Honddu are several mills that occasion great variations in the stream. To get it accurately, a gauge should be placed in the bed of the brook, which should be frequently examined in the twenty-four hours, in the driest season."

THE FEEDER FROM CRAWNON BROOK.

Sale of Cwmcrawnon Mill by Thynne Howe Gwynne, of Buckland, Esq., to the Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal Navigation Company.

30th April, 1802.—By Deed Poll of this date Thynne Howe Gwynne, of Buckland, in the County of Brecon, Esq., and Roderick Gwynne, of the same place, Esq., eldest son and heir apparent of the said Thynne Howe Gwynne, in consideration of £682. 10s. 0d. to them paid by the Co. of Proprs. of the B. & A. Canal Navigation, did grant, sell, release, and convey unto the said Co. of Proprs.,

All that Messuage and Water Corn Grist Mill called Cwmcrawnon Mill, and all singular outhouses, &c., situate in the Parish of Llanthetty, in the said County of Brecknock,

And all the right, title, and properties of the said T. H. Gwynne and Rodk. Gwynne or either of them of in and to the water of the River Crawnnon.

And also all those Dwelling Houses or Cottages and Gardens with all rights members and appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate near Usk Mill, in the Parish of St. John the Evangelist, in the County of Brecknock, then or then late in the occupation of Peter Williams or his undertenants.

And all their Estate, &c.

To hold to the Co. for ever by virtue and according to the true intent and meaning of the Act of Parliament passed for making and maintaining the said Canal with General Warranty.

Executed by both and attested.

17th October, 1845.—Memorandum of Enrollment with Clerk of the Peace.

RESALE OF HONDDU MILL TO SIR CHARLES MORGAN.

Copy of Minute.

"Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal Navigation,
Angel Inn, Abergavenny,
Oct. 18, 1809.

Mr. Thomas Bold having applied on the part of Sir Charles Morgan for the purchase of Honddu Mill and premises at the sum of two hundred and twenty pounds, reserving to this Company the right and use of the Mill stream and water, with liberty to divert the same on the premises, whenever it may be wanting for the purposes of this navigation:—

Resolved that the said Proposal be agreed to, and that Mr. Walter Powell, the Solicitor, be requested to prepare the necessary conveyance, and submit the same to the perusal of Mr. Bold, to be handed over to this Committee at the next meeting.

By the Committee,

(Sd.) B. A. GRIFFITHS,
Clerk to the Company.



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NEWTON WEIR, 1893.

RIVER USK BELOW AND ABOVE THE CANAL WEIR (NEWTON POOL ABOVE).



PAGE 195.]

NEWTON WEIR, 1893.

WATER ENTERING THE CANAL FEEDER FROM THE USK.



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NEWTON WEIR, 1899.

RIVER USK BELOW AND ABOVE THE CANAL WEIR NEWTON POOL ABOVE).



PAGE 195.]

NEWTON WEIR, 1899.

WATER ENTERING THE CANAL FEEDER FROM THE USK.

LETTER FROM MR. WILLIAM GWYN AS TO THE SALE OF USK MILL.

Neath, 9th October, 1819.

Dear Sir,

Observing by the Cambrian that there is to be a General Assembly of the Brecon and Abergavenny Canal Company on the 21st inst., I have to request you will be so good as to inform the General Assembly that I beg to decline selling the Usk Mill, and shall prefer renting the same at a fair rent. I will either name a rent which I expect from it, and which I think, under all circumstances, will be deemed a moderate rent, or I will leave the amount to be ascertained by any two competent judges.

The Canal Company can have no right to the water above the wear to the prejudice of my mill.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours very truly,

(Sd.) WM. GWYN.

I intend being at Brecon in the course of about a fortnight, and shall then call on you.

FEEDER FROM THE RIVER USK.

Conveyance of Usk Mill to the B. & A. Canal Co.

4th September, 1827.—By Deed Poll of this date William Gwyn, of the Town of Neath, in the County of Glamorgan, Esq., in consideration of £1,500 to him paid by the Co. of Proprietors of the B. & A. Canal Navigation, did grant, sell, release, and convey unto the Company of Proprietors

All that Water Corn Grist Mill called Usk Mill, together with the Dwelling House, Kiln, Garden, and land, and all singular ways, waste grounds, outlets, waters, water courses, weirs, ponds, dams, stanks, sluices, fishings profits, commodities, easements, rights, privileges, and advantages whatsoever to the said Mill belonging or in any wise appertaining, situate lying and being in the Parish of St. John the Evangelist, within the liberties of the Town of Brecon, in the said County of Brecon, and then in the occupation of the said Co. of Proprietors, And all the Estate etc.

To hold to the said Co. for ever by virtue of and according to the intent and meaning of the Act of Parliament passed for making and maintaining this Canal.

General Warranty, etc.

Release from all claims for rent or arrears of rent in respect of said premises which had accrued since the decease of Maria Teresa Gwynne widow, then late tenant for life and owner of same.

Executed and attested.

Receipt £1,500 signed and witnessed.

The following important Resolution was passed by the Committee of the Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal Co. on the claim by the Monmouthshire Canal and Railway Co. and others, to be supplied with water from the Brecon Canal :—

“Shirehall, Brecon.—Special Meeting of the Committee, 1st March, 1859,
Jno. Parry de Winton in the chair.

Petitions having been presented by the Monmouthshire Canal and Railway Co., the Newport Dock Co., and Thos. Brown of Newport Mill, asserting rights to a supply of water for their respective works from the river Usk by means of the Canal.

Resolved, that this Committee on the part of this Canal expressly deny any such rights beyond that of the first mentioned Company to such supply of water for the purpose of the traffic of their Canal from the Canal of this Company.

Resolved also that the Clerk of the Company notify to the above-named Petitioners that the Company deny their claims to such supply of water.”

The Angling Waters of the Wye.

(WRITTEN IN 1871.)

That brook is e'en Plinlimmon's fairest child,
The peerless Wye.

The River Wye, or Welsh Gwy (pronounced Gooe), Anglicè "the water," rises in the vast range of mountains that divides Cardiganshire from Montgomeryshire, and, as well as the Severn, springs from the eastern slope of Plinlimmon, 2,463 ft. high and one of the loftiest mountains in Wales. The sources of the Wye and Severn are but one mile and a half distant. On the western slope of the same range rise the Rheidol and the two smaller streams, the Llyfnant and the Dulas; and hence the pretty legend of the race run by these five sister streams from their common starting point to the sea.

From its source to Rhayader a mere mountain stream, though joined first by the Tarenig and then by the Bidno, the Wye offers few attractions to the trout fisher, as its stream, naturally strongly impregnated with mineral water, has been for several years past poisoned by the washings of numerous lead mines. It is an ill wind that blows no good, and while it is a thousand pities to find this stream poisoned from her birth, that fact will probably deter engineers from attempting to take a water supply for the metropolis or other large towns from so polluted a source.

Except after long continued floods, and late in the season, this upper portion of the river is disregarded by the salmon fisherman. In the winter months the salmon, obeying that wonderful instinct of nature, push their way high up among the mountains, and deposit their spawn in the shallow streams, and still shallower tributaries, where the water is hardly deep enough to cover their backs.

At Rhayader, or Rhayader Gwy, which means "the fall of water," the Wye flows through a narrow but deep channel, worn out of the solid Silurian rock by the continued action of the stream, and at the bridge rushes over a fall, partly natural and partly artificial, of considerable height. At Llangurig the first weir and mill are met with, and on the side of this fall is the second mill, or rather a little cluster of mills. Below this fall salmon have been caught in all ages up to 1861, and in great numbers, in a very primitive and not very sportsmanlike manner. The fisherman, or poacher, used to stand on the rock with a long pole and gaff or triangle at the end, and, by continuously dragging it backwards and forwards in the boiling water, hooked salmon after salmon without seeing them. The only approach to this rock was through a blacksmith's garden, and that worthy made a charge to each fisherman for the right of way. The good old times are gone, says the blacksmith, and many too of the Rhayader fishermen, who in this matter, and that of the enclosure of their free water, are not loud in their praise of Acts of Parliament.

Two miles below Rhayader the river Elan—a tributary of which, the Claerwen, forms the boundary between Breconshire and Radnorshire to its source—joins the Wye on the right bank at a place called Aber-dau-ddwr, or, "the junction of the two waters." The vale of Elan is very beautiful. From Aber-dau-ddwr to Aberithon, at which place the Ithon joins the Wye on the left, there are many good salmon catches, and in high water with a little stain there is no better part for catching salmon, as they rise more eagerly than lower down. At Newbridge, half way between Rhayader and Builth, just above the bridge, there are two very good catches, Fish-pool and Pwlcarn, which are easily fished, and always hold salmon. From Newbridge the river flows through the Llysdinam estate, belonging to Mr. Venables, all good water, and then to Aberithon, the best catch on this portion of the river. When the water is in order, the salmon fishermen are almost certain of a rise in this catch, and that where the two waters meet, though fish do rise both above and below according to height of water.

The Ithon is a constant annoyance to fishermen lower down, in consequence of the very dirty colour of its water when flooded—a sort of cream colour, which is owing to the white clay soil of the parishes of Disserth and Llanbadarn Fawr, through which it flows. From Aberithon to Builth we have many good catches, the chief of which, until we come to Builth rocks, is the “Goitre pool;” the tail of this in high water is one of the best on the river. In low water formerly poachers could kill every fish in the pool with the spear. As there are no rocks, they used a faggot or a few branches, which were sunk with a large stone. The water was then pelted with stones, and the salmon, seeking shelter under the faggot, soon became an easy prey to the spear. Below the “Goitre” are Gwernyfed pool and the “Rocks,” which are celebrated for the great number and excellence of the catches. The river here flows through bold and upright masses of igneous rock, and for more than a mile, though distinguished by different names, forms almost one continuous catch. The best are the Cavan, Hell hole, and the Stone pool. Below the rocks on the right bank is the fine tributary the Irvon, which rises more than thirty miles off, amidst the wild and vast extent of mountains of which Drygarn is the chief. After a succession of floods, and also late in autumn, a good many salmon are killed as far up as Garth. The Irvon is a fine river, and from its natural qualifications ought to be, and probably is, the most productive of the tributaries. At its junction, there used to be a good catch, but of late years it is filled up and is worthless. From this point the Wye is a grand and large river, no tributaries of any importance, except the Llynfi in Breconshire, and the Lugg and Monnow in the lower course, flowing in till it reaches the sea. From Aber-Irfon, which is close to the town of Builth, to Glasbury, is *par excellence* the cream of the salmon fishing of this river.

Commencing at Builth bridge, we have first the Mill-stream, then the Stone Catch, then “Pompren Cam,” and the top and tail of Aberdihonw pool, both very good catches. The tail is especially so, and although rather difficult to fish from the left side, if the water is a little stained, or with some wind, it is almost a certainty to raise a fish, and if hooked to kill him. The river here is confined by a long shelving ledge of rock, and a very strong draw of water is consequently produced. The next catch of importance is the Church-house Cabin, or Cavan, which means a gutter or channel. This catch is rather difficult to get to when the water is high, but it is well worth the trouble of trying.

We now come to Sir J. R. Bailey’s water, which extends on one side of the river for two miles. For the first half-mile the river rushes through a narrow rocky channel, in some places so narrow that in low water you could jump across. The first catch is the “Ash Pool,” close to the keeper’s lodge, then the “Wash Pool,” and in succession below “Hell Hole,” “Cavan Hir,” or long channel, “Craig Ddu,” so called from a black projecting rock. The water rushes past this rock impetuously, and confined in a narrow compass roars along, so that a steady head is required to stand on the jutting rock, and so keep the fly on the farther side of the stream. Just as the fly comes away from the slack into the stream you may see a sudden gleam of silver dart through the boiling water, and springing into the air, away goes a 16-pounder firmly hooked.

The river now, as if tired of rushing and leaping through the rocky pass, opens out into a magnificent pool, called “Llyn-em,” on which are two catches. The top is very good and easily fished, and the tail better, but rather difficult to get at from the right side. Next comes the “Boat Cavan,” just under the Skiog farm, the best catch on this water, but very difficult to fish. On high water you have to make three different journeys to it, to avoid the rough shelving rocks, which must be traversed on your way down the catch. For the next mile there is no catch until we come to “Llyn Cummer,” a fine noble pool always holding fish, and in high water a very likely place. We now leave Sir J. R. Bailey’s water, and enter upon Mr. Powell’s, of Chapel House, where there are three good catches, nearly opposite the junction of the Edw. Below, on the right bank, is the fishery rented by the late Mr. Greenwood, and on the left that of Mr. De Winton, which extend for about two miles, nearly down to Cavan-twm-bach, or “Little Tom’s Boat.” This fishery is decidedly the best on the Wye, and when regularly fished always sends better returns than any other. On the upper part are two catches, which, although not often fished, are very good, and generally hold fish; they are called the “Turn Pool,” and

"Hoiwell Fach." The favourite catch on these fisheries, and the next we come to, is "Cavan Shwn Lewis." More fish have been caught in this stream than any other on the Wye. It is said that Mr. Charles Stretton once caught twelve clean salmon on this stream without leaving the spot. It is the tail of a long pool, and, unless flooded, is always in order. On high water fish rise on the upper part of it, and near a large stone which is a sort of high water mark for all the catches. From this catch for nearly a mile there is a succession of good catches, which are formed by the rocky channel through which the river rushes. Next to Cavan Shwn Lewis is "Hell Hole," and "Never-say-die," which name arose from the fact that within the memory of man, although often hooked, there was no authentic account of a fish being killed. In late years the spell has been broken, and fish are killed every season. Next is the "Agin," top and tail, "Jack Dunn," the "Dablin," and "Furnant," all very good, "Cavan Llwyfen," a long narrow channel full of fish, "Pfrwdwen," "Pwlyfaddau," almost equal to Cavan Shwn Lewis and of a similar character, "Isaacson's," and the "Boat Cabin." This is the last catch on this fishery, and is a very good one both on high and low water, as there is rough and smooth water, and generally very heavy fish are to be met with there.

Next is the Skreen Fishery, belonging to Mr. Vaughan, of Velinnewydd. Though small it contains three or four good catches, the best of which is the "Gravel stream." Below the Skreen Sir J. R. Bailey's Llangoed estate commences on the right, and Mr. De Winton's Llanstephan property on the left bank of the river. There are some very good catches on the right bank, and easily fished. The Eirw, or "Eirw-ci-cynddeiriog"—Anglicè, "the foam of the mad dog"—is a most remarkable and picturesque catch, which the name illustrates better than any description. There are two places on this catch where the fish will rise, the chief that below the fall, where the water begins to clear of foam. The other, which is not so well known, is about ten yards above the fall. Any fisherman might pass this catch unless shown, as it is not at all a likely looking spot. Nevertheless when your fly is put over it, look out, as you are almost sure to raise a fish, and if hooked he will invariably take you down the fall. Llangoed Pool also is a very fine catch, and at the tail—which is very similar to Aberdihonw, before described—the river has a strong draw, which in high water renders this catch very good. This catch is unhappily celebrated as the place where poor Holmes, a very promising salmon fisherman, and a good sportsman, was drowned while fishing for salmon. It seems he had just killed a fish, and, having seen another rise, was endeavouring to reach it, when one step too far took him over the ledge of rocks into the deep water. Encumbered with fishing boots, he soon sank, and was never seen again alive by his newly-married wife, the single witness of the catastrophe.

Leaving Llangoed, we come to Llyswen fishery, belonging to Lord Tredegar, on the right, and Mr. W. De Winton on the left bank. Immediately above the bridge is the "Stone" pool, which, though awkward to get to in strong water, is very good. Below is the third and last mill on the Wye, and its low, unobtrusive weir hardly merits the title of such, and is no obstruction to the passage of fish. Would that could be said of all weirs! Between the weir and the railway bridge is the Mill-stream, and below the bridge Llan-pwll-llyn, a very good catch, never too low, most picturesquely situated, and alas! the ultimate of the famous rocky catches of the Wye.

From hence to Glasbury the river runs slow, with broad long pools and occasional gravelly streams. Llangwy pool is good, and holds a great many fish—and otters! Adam's or Spread Eagle catch is the best on this section of the river; it is a high-water catch, and very good for an early fish. The water belongs to Gen. Wood, but Mr. Perry, of the Three Cocks, is able occasionally to give leave to gentlemen staying there.

Below Glasbury the fisheries belong to Mr. de Winton, Gen. Wood, and Sir J. R. Bailey. Angling in this part of the river, though good, is very uncertain, as fish rise far from eagerly. There are a great many fair catches, the best of which are Glanhenwy Pool, Pwll Dwrgu, or the Otter's Pool, and the Watlins. Next come Mr. Baskerville's water, immediately above Hay, which is of a similar character, but not so good. At this point, I think, we leave the fly fisher's part of the Wye; although there are many good catches lower down, and perhaps holding more fish, they do not show the sport which is to be found in the higher and rocky portion of the river.

The flies used in the Wye are as numerous in pattern and different in colour as can be found. A fisherman of many years' experience, and using flies of all descriptions, prefers the Welsh fly, made with brown turkey or bittern wing, as the best general fly that can be used. Sometimes the body and hackle are varied from the real blue cock's hackle and tawny body to bright yellow or red with claret body; but the yellow-brown wing remains the same, and has ever proved a tempting morsel to the salmon of this river. Of late years the Welsh fly has not been thought so much of, and flies of the Irish pattern—Butcher, Priest, and Blue Doctor—are now more commonly used.

In this paper an attempt has been made to describe the upper angling waters of the Wye. On no other river in England or Wales are there such a twenty miles of almost continuous rocky catches, and in the midst of grand scenery, as between Newbridge and Glasbury; and all that is wanted to make the angling perfect are spring and summer freshes and a fair run of fish.

A Letter of 1794.

BRECONSHIRE WOODCOCKS, TURKEY, AND HARE.
LOTTERIES, AND THE WAR.

Mr. E. Marshall, of Woolwich, to Rev. John Frew, Skethrog, near Brecon, South
Wales.

Woolwich, 10th April, 1794.

My Dear Sir,

I ought to make a thousand apologies for having so long neglected writing to you, particularly as we have an acknowledgment due to you (of some considerable time standing) for a very fine Turkey and a Hare, which came safe in due time, and for which we return you many thanks. Indeed for some time past I have purposely deferred writing till I could give an account of your success in the wheel of Fortune, which my journey to London yesterday enables me to do, and I have to congratulate you on two (though small) prizes; your Tickets, Nos. 26,599 and 31,050 are both Prizes of £20. If you have not received your share of £20 for one of your last year's tickets, I think you had best inclose the three to me, and let me receive the amount for you, and dispose of it in any manner you shall direct; unless (which we most sincerely wish) you mean to favour us this summer with a visit.

Mrs. M—— and the family are well; Frances is on a visit to Mrs. Firmin in Town (late Miss Brown), the Boys in their several stations as before; and the young one at home grows a fine entertaining little girl. Our Friends in the Island are all well. Poor Tassell, we hear, continues much the same as when he left Woolwich; he is able to walk about and takes his meat and glass of wine tolerably well, but his speech and recollection are not a bit better. Mrs. Grant came up some time ago to clear the house, and pack up the furniture, all of which is sent to Portsmouth. We are exceedingly busy at the Warren preparing very large Orders for Flanders, besides having 40 or 50 Gunboats to arm, composed of River sailing Barges and Dutch Hoys; His Grace, the Master Genl., is so ill that he has been obliged to give up all business and was to have gone into the Country, but at present cannot be moved; Report says, that amongst other complaints, he is inclining towards Dropsy. I am sorry to see by the Papers that your friend, Ld. Wood has been obliged to give up the conquest of Corsica, as besides the great expense, I shudder for the fate of the poor wretches who must be left behind. God send a speedy conclusion to this destructive War.

With every good wish for your health and happiness, I remain,

My dear Sir, yours truly,

(Sd.) E. MARSHALL.

P.S.—I do not know whether I ever acknowledged the receipt of a brace of Woodcocks.

A Letter of 1803.

FASHIONABLE LIFE, THREATENED INVASION OF ENGLAND, AND THE INCOME TAX.

Mrs. Bullock Lloyd (returned from London), 25, Gay Street, Bath, to John Powell, Esq.,
Attorney, Brecon.

Sir,

I suppose you will not be surpris'd to receive a letter from me. I left London ten days since, stayed one week at Windsor to shew my Daughter that gay place, and you may be sure well attended the Royal Family on the Terrace every evening. We had the pleasure of seeing Mr. Edward Morgan in Town, and I was very glad to hear you was perfectly recover'd, and Mrs. Powell and family quite well. I believe I must now trouble you for my Money, as the London journey have pretty well emptyed my purse, and shall likewise wish to settle my account. I hope Mr. T. Lloyd, of Aberanault, and you have settled everything—he must not get on any longer. What dreadful times! I was very glad to leave Town, the preparation for an invasion is melancholly tho' necessary. They began last week to Brick up the arches leading to Somerset House. A gentleman of our acquaintance who has appartments there informed us of it, and said they had all arms sent them. I am at present in very comfortable lodgs which I fully intended taking for a twelvemonth, but as we are to pay the incombe tax I must humble myself and take one not quite so high. We all beg to join best compliments to you and Mrs. Powell, and am Sir,

Your much obliged

Humble Servant,

(Sd.) S. B. LLOYD.

Bath, July 9th, 1803.
No. 25, Gay Street.

A Letter of 1807.

From Capt. John Lloyd ⁽¹⁾, commonly called Capt. Lloyd, of the East India Co.'s Mauship,
to Walter Powell, Attorney, Brecon.

Newport, Tuesday, 11 o'clock.

Dear Walter,

We arrived here last night after 10. This morning I called on the Old Lady—no will to be found—therefore request you or your partner will take a chaise and come to Newport by dinner time to-morrow ('tis at the request of Mrs Jones —).

Pray call on Mr. Bold and ask if he knows anything of a Will, am afraid he will not be at home.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) J. LLOYD.

In haste.

Our love and respects to Mrs. Powell and Mary Ann—give a look to John ⁽²⁾—Mr. Jones will be buried to-morrow. We were five hours coming from Abergavenny, therefore look to your horses.

(1) My Grandfather and (2) my Father.

Terms of Junction of the Two Canals.

(PAGE 191 *ante*).

To complete the series of Canal papers, it is important to give a copy of the original Agreement between the two Companies as to the terms on which the Junction at Pontymoile was made, and also a brief description of the preceding negotiations leading up to that Agreement.

It would seem to have been the original intention of the promoters of the Brecon and Abergavenny Canal to have carried their line from Clydach downwards at a low level near the Usk, and along the Valley by Abergavenny and the town of Usk to the tideway at Newbridge. The effecting of a Junction with the Monmouthshire Canal does not appear to have been part of their original plan, and the extreme difficulty and danger of carrying the Canal along the steep and treacherous hillside at Llanfoist probably induced the Engineers to prefer the Lower Level.

However, during the autumn of 1792, the Monmouthshire Company approached the Promoters of the Brecon Canal, and offering favourable terms, induced the latter to abandon the Usk Valley line, and adopt the Summit Level line, as it was called, to join their Canal at Pontymoile.

One of the objections which had been raised by the Promoters was the difficulty to supply the Summit level line with water, and this was overcome by the Monmouthshire Company covenanting to supply that portion of the Brecon Canal with sufficient water. Agreements to that effect were duly entered into between the parties, dated November 6th and November 8th, 1792, and a copy of the letter, which has a considerable value, if I mistake not, to-day, is subjoined. The notion has been prevalent in the minds of some persons, that the Brecon Canal Company undertook to supply the Monmouthshire Company, whereas the reverse was the case, and this formal agreement made it incumbent upon the Monmouthshire Company to give such sufficient supply to that part of the Brecon Canal "unequivocally," which may be taken to mean, "under all circumstances."

WHEREAS David Tanner, Edward Kendall, and John Partridge, Esqrs., for and on the part and behalf of the Proprietors of the Monmouthshire Canal, by an Agreement in writing, bearing date the 6th day of November instant (amongst other things therein contained) Did agree to and with Thomas Hooper and Richard Lewis, Esqrs., for and on the part and behalf of the Subscribers to the Abergavenny and Brecon Canal.

That the Proprietors of the Monmouthshire Canal shall supply the intended Abergavenny and Brecon Canal with water for their Pontypool Summit (if practicable). Now I, the said Edward Kendall, as Chairman of the Monmouthshire Committee, do hereby for and on the part and behalf of the Proprietors of the Monmouthshire Canal undertake promise and agree to and with the Subscribers to the Abergavenny and Brecon Canal that the Proprietors of the Monmouthshire Canal shall unequivocally supply the Abergavenny and Brecon Canal with a sufficient quantity of water for their Pontypool summit. As witness my hand this 8th day of November, 1792.

EDWARD KENDALL.

Witness, WILLIAM POWELL.

RESOLUTION OF MONMOUTHSHIRE CANAL NAVIGATION PROPRIETORS.

January 15th, 1793.

[Copy of Original on Parchment with Seal of Company.]

Later in the same Session of Parliament, a more formal and full arrangement was come to, and proved by a Special Assembly of the Monmouthshire Canal Navigation convened for the purpose.

BE IT REMEMBERED

That at a Special General Assembly of the Company of Proprietors of the Monmouth-

shire Canal Navigation, held at the Westgate Hotel, in the Town of Newport, in the County of Monmouth, on Tuesday, the Fifteenth day of January, One thousand seven hundred and ninety-three, for the purpose of receiving the report of the Committee deputed by the General Assembly to treat with the subscribers to the intended Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal, for a Junction of their Canal with the said Monmouthshire Canal Navigation, of which due notice has been given in the Gloucester paper. It was Resolved and agreed as follows :

That the said Company of Proprietors of the Monmouthshire Canal Navigation shall give every aid and assistance in their power, particularly by the attendance of their Surveyor and such other persons belonging to them, as may be deemed necessary to the subscribers to the said Brecknock and Abergavenny intended Canal for obtaining an Act at the next or any other subsequent Sessions of Parliament for making and maintaining the said intended Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal from a junction with the said Monmouthshire Canal at or near a place called Pontymoile, in the Parish of Panteague, in the said County of Monmouth, on the line taken by Mr. Thomas Dadford, called the Summit Line, and in all respects whatsoever for carrying into effect the said intended Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal and Junction, and that an application be immediately made to Parliament by and at the expense of the said Monmouthshire Canal Proprietors for an Act or Clause empowering the said Proprietors of the said Monmouthshire Canal Navigation to make the necessary deviation in the line of Canal from Pontnewynydd to Newport, so as to form such intended junction at or near Pontymoile aforesaid.

That in consideration of the advantages to be derived in consequence of such junction by the said Company of Proprietors of the Monmouthshire Canal Navigation, they shall pay to the Proprietors of the intended Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal Navigation towards the extra expense which they will be put into by such Junction, the sum of three thousand pounds at the end of twelve calendar months from the passing of the Act for making the said last mentioned Canal.

And in further consideration of the advantages to be derived from such Junction, the said Company of Proprietors of the Monmouthshire Canal Navigation shall not make or demand for any coals, goods, merchandize or other things, which shall pass or be navigated in boats or other vessels upon the said Monmouthshire Canal to or from the said intended Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal any higher or greater tonnage than shall for the time being be taken by the Company of Proprietors of the Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal for coals, goods, merchandizes, or other things to be navigated or passing on such last mentioned Canal. But it shall and may be lawful for all boats and other vessels passing to and from the said intended Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal and navigating thereon two miles or more to pass and navigate into and upon the said Monmouthshire Canal at the same rate of tonnage, as shall from the time being be taken by the Company of Proprietors of the Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal Navigation, but never exceeding the rate of tonnage taken for the time being by the said Company of Proprietors of the said Monmouthshire Canal Navigation.

That the above Resolutions or such of them as shall be thought proper shall be introduced into the Act for making and maintaining the said intended Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal Navigation, and that Edmund Estcourt, Edward Kendall, George Smith, and Alexander Raby, be a Committee on the part of the Monmouthshire Canal Proprietors armed with full powers to carry these resolutions into effect.

Given under the Common Seal of the Proprietors of
the Monmouthshire Canal Navigation at the
time and places first above mentioned.

Seal
Monmouthshire Canal Co.

(Sd.) ROBERT SALISBURY, Chairman.

Appended also is a copy of the CVIII. Clause in the Brecon Canal Act of 1793, in which the main heads of the Agreement between the Companies were embodied. It will be seen that the Agreement is fuller than the Clause, and that the £3000 was to be paid

specially to cover the extra expense that the Brecon Canal Company were put to in the works attending the Junction as to Levels, &c.

1798.

CLAUSE IN 1798 ACT BASED ON ABOVE RESOLUTIONS.

33 Geo. III. Cap. 96—CVIII.

Brecon and Abergavenny Canal Navigation Act.

CVIII.—And whereas in consideration of the advantages to be derived by the Company of Proprietors of the Monmouthshire Canal Navigation from the Junction of the said Canals, they have agreed to make the payment hereinafter mentioned to the Company of Proprietors of the said Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal, and also to certain Regulations respecting the rates payable to them :

Be it therefore further enacted that the said Company of Proprietors of the Monmouthshire Canal Navigation shall pay to the Company of Proprietors of the said Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal Navigation, the sum of three thousand pounds upon the twenty-fifth day of March, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-four, and in default of payment the same may be sued for and recovered by action of debt, or on the case, in any Court of Law.

And the said Company of Proprietors of the Monmouthshire Canal Navigation shall not take or demand, for any coals, goods, merchandize, or other things, which shall pass or be navigated in boats or other vessels upon the said Monmouthshire Canal to or from the said Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal, and passing for two miles or upwards upon the said Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal any higher or greater rate of tonnage than shall, for the time being, be taken by the said Company of Proprietors of the Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal Navigation for any coals, goods, merchandize, or other things passing or to be navigated on the said Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal, but never exceeding the rate of tonnage taken, for the time being, by the said Company of Proprietors of the Monmouthshire Canal Navigation.

NOTE.—See Page 115 *ante*.

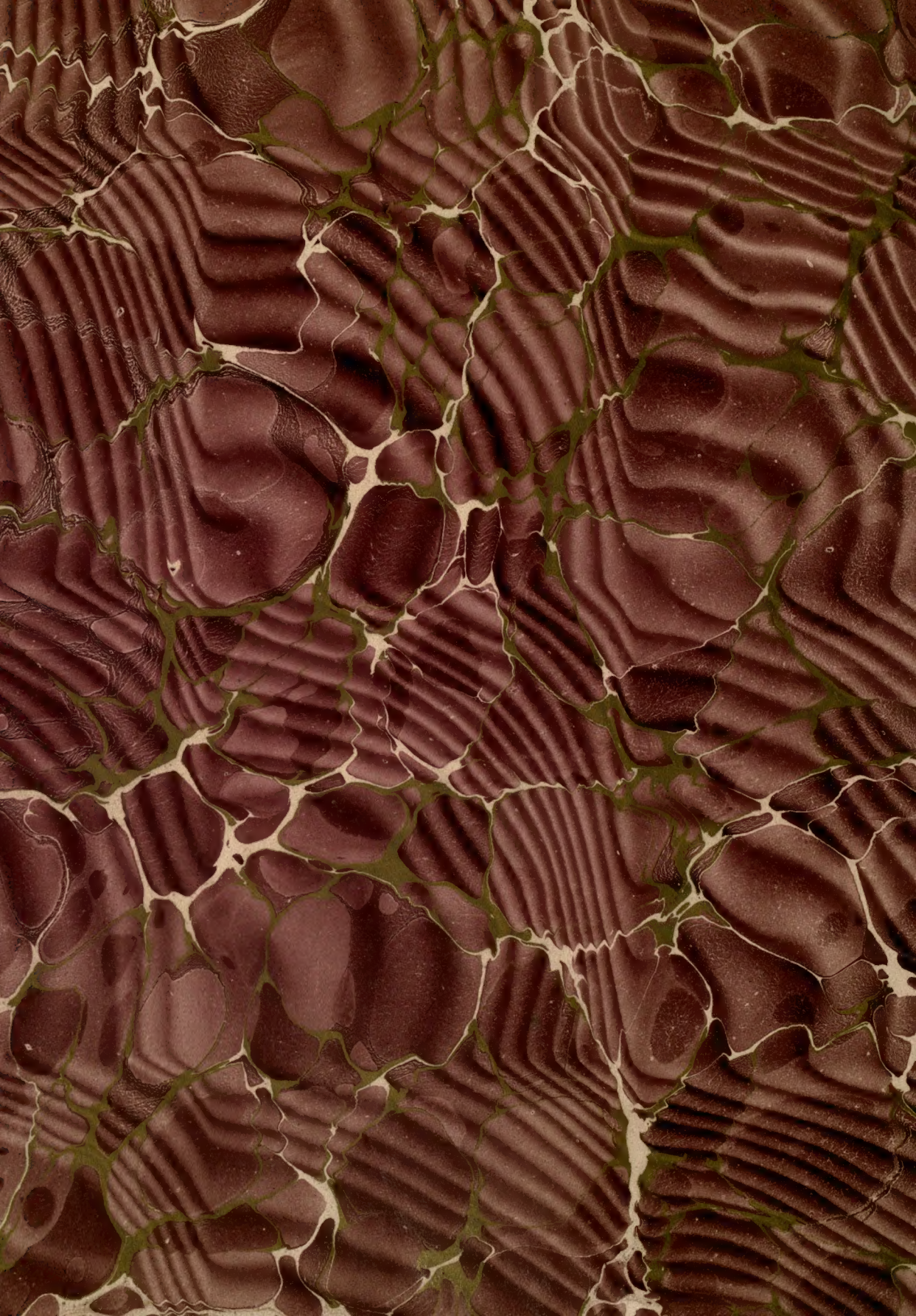
Llansaintffread and Llanvillo Inclosure.

Description of the Boundary set out by the Inclosure Commissioners over Allt yr Yscryn Common.

From Heol yr Allt (on the south end of Allt yr Yscryn Common) upwards along a roadway leaving a small tenement in the Parish of Llansaintffread on the left, and a cottage and land in the Parish of Llangasty Talyllyn, belonging to Sir Edward Hamilton, on the right; from thence upwards along the said road over a ridge of the hill to a stone nearly opposite a cottage and land called the Allt, held by Richard Williams, leaving the Common of Llangasty-Talyllyn on the right hand; and from thence across old quarries on the Allt, in nearly a straight direction to the side of a ledge of rocks at the summit of the hill called Llecher Court; and from thence downwards along the said Common, leaving a very narrow part of the Common of Llangasty Talyllyn on the right hand to a Boundary Stone; and from thence to an antient lane called Heol yr Allt, at the northern extremity of the Common.—Aug. 18, 1815.

Copies of the above were served on Mr. Gwynne and on the Churchwardens of Llansaintffread and Llangasty Talyllyn Parishes.





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Lloyd, (Sir) John Edward
Historical memoranda of
Breconshire

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